Sandwell
CHRONICLE

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Fury over car parking charges move for Sandwell Valley

FEES DUBBED TAX ON USING PARK

Report by Richard Guttridge

COUNCIL bosses have been accused of taxing people for going to the park after a decision to introduce car parking charges at Sandwell Valley attracted a public backlash.

Sandwell Council has come under fire after introducing charges at the country park for the first time and is facing calls to reverse its decision.

Around 80 people have signed a petition over the last week launched by a campaign group which is calling for the new charges to be scrapped. They believe they could lead to a drop in people visiting the West Bromwich attraction.

Parking has always been free at the country park but visitors will now find themselves paying from 40p for an hour to £2 if they stay for more than four hours. Around 200,000 cars park at the site each year.

Council chiefs said the change was necessary to ensure funds could be generated for the upkeep of the site and new attractions including a paintball activity centre and outdoor cinema as cash would otherwise have to be used from existing budgets that are already stretched due to Government cuts.

Changes

The move is expected to make £200,000 a year but the council insists the money will be used only for the maintenance of the park.

Under the changes, people will now have to pay to park at Dartmouth Park, Swan Pool, Forge Mill Lake and Lloyd Street as well as the country farm. Visitors will be charged 40p for an hour, 80p for two hours, £1.20 for three hours and £1.60 for four hours. Anything above four hours will cost £2. The charges will apply between 9am and 6pm. Parking after 6pm will be free.

Karl Hawkes, aged 43, from the Sandwell Valley campaign group, who has used the park since he was a child, said: "It is a park where people come to walk their dogs, jog and ride their bikes. It was a park that was created for the people - and you can only get there by car. This is not a car park tax, it's a tax on coming to the park.

"The council is always talking about trying to get people walking and now they are taxing people who are trying to be more healthy."

Public pressure previously led to plans for parking charges at the country park to be scrapped last year and Mr Hawkes, who lives in Great Barr, is hopeful the same can happen again.

OPERATION DREAM EDGES CLOSER FOR LEAH

Katherine Davy, with her daughter Leah, aged six, at the Dog pub in Warley, where they have raised money towards an operation for her

A YOUNG girl born three months early with a specific form of cerebral palsy is edging closer to her dream operation following a number of kind donations.

Suffering with spastic diplegia, six-year-old Leah Davy from Dudley has never been able to walk without help, as her leg muscles are tight which leave her unable to put her feet flat on the floor.

But after being told by the NHS two years ago she needs a life-changing operation which would cost £35,000, her family launched an appeal to raise the money and are now up to nearly £25,000. The money has been raised through events, charity days and the sheer kindness and generosity of local people who have heard her story. The youngster attends Springfield Primary School, in Rowley Regis. She currently uses a Kaye walker, a type of zimmer frame, to get around.

Leah's mum, Katherine, aged 29, was contacted by a worker from The Dog pub, on the Hagley Road in Warley, who donated around £400 along with one of the regulars, Peter Elliot, who made the donation up to £1,000.

Katherine said: "We have just been so overwhelmed by the support and compassion shown by everybody since we started the appeal over two years ago.

"It's been brilliant and places my faith back in humanity. The day is getting closer to seeing my Leah walk normally with a smile on her face. She's such a happy and energetic girl but does get really sad when she can't do normal things like run around and play with her friends, she understands she's got poorly legs." Anyone who wants to donate towards Leah's operation should go to www.justgiving.com/leahswish/

EMPLOYMENT

150 ex-Caparo staff turn up at jobs event

MORE than 150 people who lost their jobs after Caparo shut three Black Country plants turned up for a two-day job fair.

The event at Sandwell Council House in Oldbury came two weeks after 323 workers were laid off from Caparo sites in the region. Caparo Atlas Fastening in Darlaston, Caparo Forging Europe in Dudley and Fairbridge Wire in West Bromwich were closed with immediate effect.

The jobs fair was jointly organised by Sandwell Council along with Job Centre Plus Black Country and Walsall Council.

FINANCES

Council on track to meet targets

FINANCE bosses at Sandwell Council believe they are on track to meet their target on how much council tax is collected during this financial year. The authority had received 57.46 per cent of the total amount it will be owed during 2015/16 as of September.

Many local authorities have suffered difficulties in recouping tax that is owed from both residents and businesses. In June, it was revealed that Sandwell Council was owed £2.2 million in unpaid council tax from 2014/15.

REVAMP

Vandalised toilets block demolished

A VANDALISED toilet block in Bearwood that has sat in disrepair for the past few years has been demolished to make way for new facilities.

It comes as part of the town centre revamp which officials hope will boost the town alongside the rejuvenated project to restore Lightwoods House and Park.

Abbey Ward councillor, Ann Jaron, supported the demolition and was present as bulldozers arrived on Friday. She classed the block as being 'completely wrecked' by the last set of vandals, saying that the demolition would enable the area to be landscaped and a 'superloo' installed.

INSIDE

NOAH'S ART IS FROM THE HEART

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Council helps to construct career paths

The Think Sandwell team with students

A GROUP of construction students at Sandwell College are being helped onto the career ladder by Sandwell Council.

Thirteen carpentry and painting and decorating students have been offered work experience placements by Sandwell Council managers, who have significant industry links in the construction trade. The students will now go on to work with local employers.

They are being invited to an information session on practicalities of work, including travel logistics, employers' expectations and hours of work.

They will later have interviews with interested companies who are already signed up to the scheme.

Councillor Paul Moore, Sandwell Council's cabinet member for regeneration and economic development, said: "It's vital we do all we can to give our young people the first step on the career ladder.

"This scheme gives students a brilliant opportunity to gain hands-on skills from contractors working on building projects in Sandwell."

Ann Sheridan, Sandwell College's director of quality, student studies and innovation, said: "We rely on high quality work experience placements for our students to experience real-life professional environments and develop their employability skills, and our partnership with Sandwell Council and the Think Sandwell team gives us the opportunity to do just that."

Pals battled in vain to save canal crash driver

A FATHER-OF-TWO died after he lost control of his car and plunged more than 30ft into a canal, with his brain starved of oxygen for almost 15 minutes as his friends desperately tried to rescue him.

Dean Strong, from Bradley, Bilston, was driving above the 30mph speed limit on the Black Country New Road in Moxley when he swerved to avoid two stationary cars, lost control on a tight left bend and smashed into the crash barrier.

His car then flipped over before plunging 32ft into Walsall Canal and landing on its roof. The 31-year-old was being followed in another car by two of his friends who rushed into the water.

The inquest heard his friends were panicking because they struggled to find the driver's side of the car. The tragedy happened on October 8 near the Aldi supermarket. The inquest heard Mr Strong, who was driving a black Volkswagen Golf, swerved to avoid the stationary cars at a red light, with CCTV footage showing he was driving over the 30mph limit.

Oxygen

Sgt Paul Hughes, the investigating officer for West Midlands Police, said: "He failed to negotiate the tight sweeping left and the car breached the crash barrier and tumbled down into the canal."

Manel Mangalika, New Cross Hospital pathologist, ruled that Mr Strong had not drowned but died because his brain had been starved of oxygen for too long.

He was pronounced dead at Birmingham's Queen Elizabeth Hosptial.

At Smethwick Council House on Monday, Black Country coroner Zafar Saddique recorded a verdict of death due to a road traffic collision due to driver error.

Mr Strong's partner, Stephanie, added: "He was amazing, he would do anything for anybody, he was a very selfless person. He was always there and he loved his kids."

Darlaston councillors Paul and Chris Bott are campaigning to get extra safety measures on the busy stretch of road.

But Sgt Hughes said: "The junction has been checked and it complies with the requirements."

Dean Strong, who crashed into a canal in Moxley

Tributes off Black Country New Road, Moxley

The scene of the crash with the car circled

Arena all set to spring into action

A NEW trampoline arena will be opening in Oldbury, creating around 20 jobs, under new plans.

Flip Out, which runs several sites across the country, wants to convert a disused warehouse on Churchbridge into an activity and play centre. The large indoor arena would be used for children's parties but also as a fitness centre for adults and teenagers.

The application has been lodged with Sandwell Council, with members of the planning committee expected to make a decision in the coming weeks.

Flip Out is seeking to take over a warehouse unit on the Churchbridge Industrial Estate and is expected to advertise for receptionists, bar and cafe staff, floor managers and party hosts should it be given the nod by councillors.

Existing centres feature giant trampolining areas with dozens of linked trampolines and safety mats as well as foam pits, half pipes and wall running areas. A reception and cafe would also be part of the Oldbury arena, while seating for parents would also run around the trampolining area.

Flip Out said it would only need to make slight changes to the building to convert it into the activity arena.

Taxpayers are told to come clean on discounts

HOUSEHOLDS in Sandwell are being urged to tell the council if they are claiming council tax discounts they are not entitled to.

Sandwell Council awards a 25 per cent council tax discount to more than 45,000 households with only one adult. In the last financial year, more than £15m was awarded in discounts. The council will shortly be comparing its council tax information with other databases to identify cases where more than one adult is living at an address and a discount is still being claimed.

Councillor Steve Eling, the council's deputy leader, said: "We believe most council tax discounts are claimed honestly and legitimately, but we know there are times where a household's circumstances change and people forget to tell us their eligibility to a discount should be ended.

"However, it is a statutory requirement for council taxpayers to tell us within 28 days. If you receive a discount you think you should not receive, this is your final chance to tell us, before we contact you."

Cllr Eling added: "As the council tax scheme is a form of tax, we are obliged to amend any records we find to be incorrect, back to the date of the change."

Anyone who receives a single occupier discount must inform the council of any changes that may affect their discount.

For more information about single person discounts, go to online at the council's website: www.sandwell.gov.uk/counciltax

Elderly urged to think about legal matters

A FIRM of solicitors in Sandwell is urging more elderly people to take charge of important decisions by ensuring a lasting power of attorney (LPA) is in place.

It follows research that shows 78 per cent of people in the region would want their loved ones to make important decisions on housing, assets and care.

However, 87 per cent have no control about later-life decisions, according to the SFE (Solicitors for the Elderly) report, and without an LPA, their affairs can fall into the hands of third party solicitors, social workers, doctors or the British courts.

Helen Jolly at Baches Solicitors in West Bromwich said: "Do not leave it until it is too late to put an LPA in place. Decide now who you trust to look after you and your affairs in later life and put the right documents in place now.

"Otherwise your family and friends will be looking at a lengthy and costly process to sort it all out when you have lost capacity, and worse still, it won't be you deciding who is to act for you."

For further information, call Mrs Jolly on 0121 553 3286.

To download the report 'Who will decide for you when you can't?' go to: http://www.sfe.legal

Crackdown on crime as part of six week focus

A CRACKDOWN on litter, cold callers, illegal parking and cigarette and tobacco raids were carried out during the first two weeks of Sandwell's Safer 6 campaign.

The annual campaign that ran across the borough from September 28 to November 8 saw each of Sandwell's six towns have a special focus week.

During the second week of Safer 6, sniffer dogs helped trading standards officers to uncover large quantities of cigarettes and tobacco on three raids on shops in the Smethwick area.

Officers found 27,100 cigarettes and 278.5kg of hand-rolling tobacco with a retail worth in excess of £22,000.

Firefighters also carried out 73 home safety checks during the week and visited two firework retailers to offer advice and guidance.

Council leader Councillor Darren Cooper said: "It's great to see how so many different organisations, including voluntary groups, have joined together for this autumn's campaign. I thank everyone for their efforts."

Working alongside local organisations and councillors, the scheme aimed to provide extra reassurance during the darker nights, fireworks and bonfire season – a time when crime and anti-social behaviour can often rise.

Councillors, council neighbourhoods officers and police carried out walkabouts and safety initiatives across the four Rowley Regis wards, to talk to residents and respond to any concerns.

Hoard team get leading award

CONSERVATIONISTS behind the Staffordshire Hoard have been presented with a prestigious award for their work.

The team from Birmingham Museums Trust is celebrating after picking up one of the top awards in the conservation sector. The Pilgrim Trust Award for Conservation 2015 was presented to the team at the Icon Conservation Awards.

Their project was described by judges as the 'poster project' of the sector and the team received high praise for their public engagement and for raising the profile of conservation. The award is one of the most coveted in the heritage and conservation sectors and was awarded by Institute of Conservation.

Landlords to be offered advice

LANDLORDS in Sandwell and Dudley can get advice at a meeting next month. The National Landlords Association (NLA) meets on December 8 at The Recreation Club, Station Road, Oldbury from 3.30pm to 6.30pm.

Exporting roadshow motoring in

Lord Maude launches the export week

A 32-TON truck is visiting the Black Country as part of a government campaign to encourage businesses to sell their goods and services overseas.

The mobile export hub is coming to help launch Exporting is Great, a five-year campaign that aims to support 100,000 new British exporters in selling their goods and services abroad by 2020 in the area.

It will be at The Hawthorns, home of West Bromwich Albion, tomorrow, Friday, from 11am to 2pm offering local companies the chance to drop in and receive initial advice and support from UK Trade and Investment experts, as well as the chance to speak to businesses that already have taken the plunge and are enjoying success overseas.

The truck was in Gateshead on November 9 when Lord Francis Maude launched Export Week and its arrival in West Bromwich follows UKTI's week of events across the region to build contacts in new markets and boost export sales.

Over the past three years, 480 businesses in the Black Country have received help and support from UKTI, and won a reported £480 million in overseas sales. Black Country-based London Screw Company, is just one that has broadened its horizons, with the help of UKTI.

Richard Spence, managing director of the Halesowen company, said: "In the last 145 years we have steadily and reliably focused on serving the UK's fastener distributor customers with good quality product. Exporting was not of interest, too complicated, too far away, too much a financial risk, too much paperwork and too many communication problems."

Nine-month delay for new police cell block

A SUITE of police cell blocks being built in Oldbury will open nine months later than expected after the project was hit by delays.

Willmott Dixon was given a £20 million contract by West Midlands Police to build the 60-cell block in Bromford Lane, Oldbury.

A similar facility is also being built in Holford Drive, Perry Barr, as part of the deal.

Police chiefs told how the scheme had been hit by delays, during a police meeting earlier this month.

But now the force has confirmed the Oldbury suite will not open until March, landing the developer with a £800,000 bill over the delays.

West Midlands Police said Willmott Dixon confirmed the force can expect the keys to the two new suites at the start of January.

But both facility's will still need to be fitted out with their own equipment, fixtures and furniture.

Oldbury Custody suite was due to open in the summer and the delay means it will be finished nine months later than expected.

Damages

The Perry Barr suite was due to be completed by November. The force say it is now delays mean it will be two months behind schedule.

The force expects to recover delay damages against construction company Willmott Dixon for both builds in the region of £800,000.

Assistant Chief Constable Gary Cann said: "While we are not impacted operationally due to this we are of course hugely disappointed that both builds have been affected by delays – Oldbury more so than Perry Barr.

"These are two huge new builds and we are continuing to work with the contractors to minimise any further delays and are planning for a March opening for both."

Willmott and Dixon spokesman Andy Geldard said the delays were 'mainly down to supply chain issues'.

"We are working closely with the client to get both custody suites completed in due course," he added.

The Oldbury custody block was being built featuring holding rooms, interview rooms, consultation rooms, places for evidence gathering and offices. Police chiefs previously said they could also work with other Midland forces to pool resources under plans that could see outdated cells at police stations close.

£450,000 windfall for centre

Sandwell Volunteer Centre's chief executive, Jean Taylor, from Great Barr, with the letter from the Lottery

MORE than £450,000 worth of funding has been given to a Sandwell volunteer centre which aims to improve the lives of people in the community, all thanks to a lottery programme.

Volunteer Centre Sandwell, based in Freeth Street, Oldbury, will now use the money to expand its successful Hands on Project, which provides volunteering opportunities for people with mental health conditions and those with physical and learning disabilities in Sandwell, for another five years.

The centre has been supporting the area for over 20 years and during this time have found suitable placements for volunteers, supported placement organisations in both the voluntary and statutory sectors and ran specialised projects which have supported volunteers with specific needs.

Jean Taylor Chief Executive Officer said: "We are delighted to be awarded this funding. Our aim is to improve the mental wellbeing of individuals through education and training opportunities to develop their skills to open up new employment opportunities and their wider development.

"The funding of £453,000 really has made our year. I can't tell you how thrilled we are here.

"We will help local people gain employment and we are working closely with the NHS to support people with mental health problems and learning difficulties. Here at the centre we do our very best to inspire the development of volunteering opportunities and bring benefits to the community."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Micro bar set to create jobs

A FORMER pharmacy in Oldbury will become home to a micro bar, under plans creating jobs.

Oldbury Pharmacy, in Causeway Green Road, will be converted into a licensed bar. The premises has been left empty since last year.

Oldbury-based developer, B68 Limited, is behind the application. Plans show that a beer garden will be included on the back of the property.

Four part time jobs would be created at the site. A decision over granting planning permission will be taken in the coming weeks.

Death of cyclist after collision

A CYCLIST has died after a crash in Birmingham. It happened on Gilhurst Road, Harborne at around 6.45pm on Wednesday. Ambulance service spokesman John Hawker said: "Crews arrived to find a car and a cyclist that had been in a significant collision. The man riding the bicycle was in traumatic cardiac arrest and CPR was being carried out by passers-by.

"Resuscitation attempts continued but unfortunately nothing could be done to save the man and he was confirmed dead shortly after arriving at Queen Elizabeth Hospital."

On track for NEC model of a show

A RAILWAY exhibition will be on show at the NEC at the end of this month as part of the UK's premier model railway event.

The show dates are Saturday November 28 from 9.45am to 6pm and Sunday 29 from 9.45am to 5pm. Advance ticket holders can enter at 9.15am. Advanced prices start at £12.50 for adults and £7 for juniors; on the door starts at £14 and £8.50.

To attend, log onto www.thewarleyshow.co.uk or call 07576320676.

Petition starts over community officers

COUNCILLORS in Wednesbury have launched a petition in a bid to save the town's PCSOs from losing their jobs.

West Midlands Police announced this week that more than 400 community officers would be axed as the force looks to save £130 million.

But councillors in Wednesbury say residents are desperate not to lose the local link to the police. Councillor Olwen Jones has launched the petition, which has also been backed by her fellow councillors in the town.

Bargains at club

CRADLEY Heath Liberal Club will be holding a late night Christmas shopping event on November 26 from 6.30pm to 10pm at the Upper High Street club with proceeds going to Acorn's Children's Hospice. There will be a wide selection of stalls offering local crafts and Christmas gifts.

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THE BEST OF PETER RHODES

DAVID Cameron's fearless, forthright and strident demands for a reformed EU. What do we want? Not a lot, really. When do we want it? No rush, honestly.

SO Farewell, Downton Abbey, with its sugary depiction of warm-hearted aristos and loyal, forelock- tugging staff. Everybody knew their place and all the servants got lots of time off for teaching, sitting exams or running a B&B. Maybe in some stately homes life was as jolly and easy as that. All I can contribute is that when I was born both my parents were in service at a grand house in Lancashire and if it was such a lovely experience, how come I was in my 40s before they told me about it?

A NUMBER have emailed to say, halfway through November, you're already sick of Christmas adverts. That's because you are sweet, sentimental old things who cling to the belief that Christmas is a sacred event towards the end of December. It is actually a three-month festival, encompassing Diwali, Halloween, Thanksgiving, Black Friday and Putting the Clocks Back. It ends on December 25 and is followed by Boxing Day, when we all start wearing our poppies again, and New Year's Eve when we make ourselves sick with Easter eggs.

TRUST the historian, not the politicians. On the issue of migration, Sir Max Hastings stood head and shoulders above the rest of the panel on Radio 4's Any Questions. He described "a vast swathe of humanity from Africa and the Middle East who see what we have in our society and they do not have" and are making their way to Europe. He made the point that the biggest movement of people since the Second World War will continue for decades, affecting generations to come. He warned that, while it is wrong automatically to assume it will be a disaster, "Britain and Europe are going to become radically different places." He is surely right. Politicians talk about settling a few thousand here or there, as though they have real answers, but there are tens of millions who want a better life in Europe. We are a humane nation and there is no humane way of stopping them. We are seeing the beginning of the end of the old Europe and the Britain we knew. All we can hope is the folk dwelling here 100 years from now will live happily and look after the place.

A READER fresh back from a driver-awareness course tells me he learned two things. Firstly, the speed limit on dual carriageways is generally 70mph, not 60mph as he thought. Secondly, the gantry speed lights on motorways are only a recommendation, not mandatory. In short, he says, "the speed-awareness course actually made me aware of when I can go faster."

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Plan emerges to lose 400 PCSOs

WEST Midlands Police is planning to cut the number of its PCSOs by more than 400, it has been announced.

The proposals have been confirmed following a wholesale review of local policing. The cuts will see the number of PCSOs scaled down from 535 to 119, a reduction of 416 positions by 2020 as part of a plan to make £130m of savings by 2020. There is no timescale yet as to when the phases of cutbacks will be implemented.

They are part of a long line of savings the force needs to make as it has seen its budget reduced by £146 million since 2010.

The force has now entered into a formal consultation stage with trade unions and staff over the cuts.

Deputy Chief Constable David Thompson, who is set to take over the role as Chief Constable in the new year, said the move was 'hugely regrettable' but 'unavoidable'.

He said: "From the outset of the review we were very clear that we anticipated we would have to significantly reduce the numbers of PCSOs employed by the force.

"This is a hugely regrettable but unavoidable set of proposals as we need to do all we can to ensure we are sustainable to 2020 and beyond.

"We believe our funding settlement will mean that by 2020 we will have reduced by almost 45 per cent over a decade. The unfortunate reality is that we will lose a lot of our people as a result.

"I am confident though that policing will continue to protect the public but how services look and are delivered will have to change."

Hospital trust work hailed as exemplary

Report by David Cosgrove

HOSPITAL care for children and families in Sandwell is a first-class example for others across the country to follow, according to a new report.

Inspectors from the Care Quality Commission rated Sandwell and West Birmingham NHS Trust's care for children, young people and families as outstanding.

The service provides care across Sandwell, Wednesbury, West Bromwich, Smethwick, Oldbury, Rowley Regis and Tipton.

Group director for women and child health, Amanda Geary, said she was delighted with the health watchdog's findings and insisted the trust will not rest on its laurels but keep striving to get better.

A CQC inspection of the whole trust last year found it required improvement. "This illustrates what I know our staff do every single day," Mrs Geary said.

Quality

"Not only that but it also demonstrates to our families that the care they receive from us is of a really high quality.

"We can't be complacent – this is an assessment at a point in time and reflects what we've been doing and are currently doing. The challenge now is to maintain it and take that good practice across other specialities we have in the organisation.

"We want every service to be up to a high level, but all services have different challenges. There's been an awful lot of work done following the trust-wide inspection. We've taken a good look at that previous visit and [inspections] provide an opportunity to hold a mirror up and see what we're doing."

It was rated outstanding overall and in the categories for care, responsiveness and leadership – with good ratings for safety and effectiveness. Patients using the services heaped praise on the care they received, according to the report.

Second Chance for iconic factory

The seven storey building at the former Chance Brothers Glass Works in Smethwick, near the M5, Junction 1

THE iconic Chance Brothers Glassworks factory in Smethwick is to be the subject of a major research project thanks to funding secured from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

More than £48,000 has been granted to the charity Made to oversee the 18-month project which will look at the impact of the factory on the region by conducting history talks, school workshops and a new website.

Chance Brothers Glassworks, on Spon Lane in Smethwick, was globally renowned for its glass products, which ranged from homewares to the windows for the Houses of Parliament and the original Crystal Palace.

The firm went on to specialise in optics, creating a new lamp for lighthouses which revolutionised global maritime and shipping.

Along with a largely derelict seven storey building adjacent to the M5 at junction one – the heritage of the company is now all that remains, but at one time the site covered 30 acres. Made is looking to collate all the information relating to Chance into one central, publicly accessible archive to ensure the legacy is retained and remembered for use in arts, events and educational projects.

Sally Robertshaw, community programmes manager at Made, said: "We are delighted to have secured this funding from Heritage Lottery Fund for Chance Brothers Glassworks: Everyone's Story."

In addition, a series of walks and talks as well as a heritage open day and family activity day will be held to engage the local community in what is a crucial part of their region's history.

The events will be held in pubs, cafes, markets and parks in order to keep them aimed at a non-academic audience. The first is to be held on November 24 at the Brasshouse in Smethwick and is a chance to hear about the project and how to get involved.

Dog mess crackdown sees three prosecuted

THREE more people have been prosecuted for not cleaning up after their pets under Sandwell Council's 'zero tolerance' crackdown on dog mess.

The result coincides with news that wardens have now issued nearly 140 dog mess fines since a hard-hitting poster campaign launched last year.

Gillian Jones, aged 31, of Parkes Street, Smethwick, faces a £592 bill after failing to clean up after her dog at Harry Mitchell Park on 1 August 2015. She did not attend the hearing before Sandwell Magistrates, who ordered her to pay a £220 fine, £200 costs, a £150 criminal court charge and £22 victim surcharge.

Alan Westwood, aged 67, of Bell End, Rowley Regis, also faces a £592 bill after failing to clean up after his dog at Britannia Park on August 5, 2015. He also failed to attend. Magistrates ordered him to pay a £220 fine, £200 costs, a £150 criminal court charge and £22 victim surcharge.

Paul Lyn-Kew, aged 48, of Ruskin Avenue, Rowley Regis, attended court and admitted not cleaning up after his dog at Britannia Park on 26 April 2015. Magistrates imposed a conditional discharge for 12 months and ordered him to pay £200 costs, a £150 criminal court charge and a £15 victim surcharge.

All the hearings took place on November 3.

These results take the number of people prosecuted in Sandwell's hard-hitting campaign to nine. Report dog fouling online at www.sandwell.gov.uk/dogmess or call 0121 569 6625.

Gala launch for charity's single

A HEALTH and wellbeing charity in Sandwell launched a charity single at their World Mental Health Day charity gala ball in Birmingham. The Kaleidoscope Plus Group, based in West Bromwich, teamed up with Josh "Smiiffy" Smith and Peter Tay who wrote their debut single 'Words' after experiencing mental health problems.

The charity song will help raise much needed funds to ensure the charity can continue providing vital services and support people who are suffering with a range of mental illnesses. iTunes top 40 artist, Josh "Smiiffy" Smith, said he was thrilled to have finally released the song.

To download the single visit www.cdbaby.com/cd/smiiffyfeatpetertay or search "Smiiffy Words" on the iTunes Music Store.

Patty men to open city restaurant

BURGER specialists The Original Patty Men is opening its first permanent restaurant on Shaws Passage in Digbeth, Birmingham, early next month. The burgers comprise 35-day aged longhorn beef and the restaurant will have 33 seats.

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Orchestra is a force to reckon with at concert

MUSICAL police officers are tuning up ahead of an annual concert at Birmingham's Symphony Hall.

The British Police Symphony Orchestra will be taking centre stage on December 5 for their Proms Night Spectacular concert. The Orchestra is based in Staffordshire.

This year's show will feature Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture; themes from the James Bond and Austin Powers movies, Khachaturian's Spartacus and John Williams' 'Dartmoor' from War Horse.

It will conclude with the traditional 'Proms Night' finish of Jerusalem; Rule, Britannia! and Land Of Hope and Glory, complete with fireworks.

Staffordshire Police Cadets will again be attending the event to help out on the night, which starts at 7.30pm. Andy Chapman, an inspector with Staffordshire Police, is a percussionist in the orchestra and has been involved for 22 years.

He said: "Members are involved in their own time, at their own expense, to deliver outstanding music concerts throughout the year.

"This concert is open to everyone so please bring your singing voices and raise the roof at Symphony Hall to be part of one of the region's most popular concerts of the season."

Tickets are now on sale for the show, which will help raise funds for the orchestra, priced at £12, £17 or £22, excluding a booking fee.

There are discounts available and to book call the Box Office on 0121 345 0603 or visit www.thsh.co.uk

Finding festive know-it-alls

CAN you name all of Santa's reindeer? In which 1942 film was the song 'White Christmas' first performed?

Festive questions like this and more will be posed when Wednesbury Museum and Art Gallery fun a Christmas quiz night on Thursday December 17 between 7pm and 9.30pm.

Tickets cost £4 for adults and £3 for children and include a fish and chip supper. Spaces are limited so please call organisers on 0121 556 0683 in advance to book in your team, which can include up to six people.

For more details contact the gallery on 0121 566 0683, or via the website at www.sandwell.gov.uk/museums, or on Facebook, www.facebook.com/sandwellmuseums.

Windy drama for plane on runway

A PLANE nearly veered off the runway at Birmingham Airport after being caught in a strong cross wind while landing. The turbo-prop aircraft, operated by Flybe, was approaching the runway when the blustery conditions temporarily affected the steering system.

Shock for rider as car goes wrong way

The Renault caught on Old Newton Road

A SHOCKED horse rider caught a driver on camera travelling toward her on a one-way street.

Bev Stevens was leading her horse along the Old Newton Road in Great Barr when she managed to film the Renault Laguna.

Mrs Stevens, 52, can be heard remonstrating with the driver, but they simply swerve around her before continuing on his journey.

She said: "I realised it was travelling the wrong way so I stood in the middle of the road shouting at him.

"I managed to get my camera out and I thought he was going to stop but he must have seen a gap because he skimmed straight passed me and carried on."

The 52-year-old, who lives in West Bromwich, has kept horses in a field of Old Newton Road for 20 years.

She said the road was changed to a one-way system after two horses were killed by a drink-driver a few years ago.

But she claimed it was now an even worse situation for horse riders, cyclists and pedestrians because no-one was expecting cars to be travelling in both directions down a one-way street.

She said: "This has happened before and I think the road signs need to be clearer.

"There is just one small sign explaining it is 20mph road too.

"I don't know if sat navs are sending them the wrong way or people are confused because it used to be a two-way street."

Mrs Stevens said she had joined members of Sandwell Valley Riding Centre to get extra safety measures added after the horses were killed.

Phone row killer is locked up for 25 years

A KILLER has been locked up for 25 years for the murder of a teenager who was stabbed to death after a row over a mobile phone.

Sheriff Mbye was with friends Rakeem Riley and Omar Robinson in Birmingham on a shopping trip to Northfield to allegedly buy fishing knives.

But the tragedy unfolded after a chance encounter with another man, Montel Stephens, aged 18. Sheriff had bought a second-hand phone from Stephens sometime before but wanted his money back.

Sheriff Mbye

Montel Stephens

Police say the pair had fought over the deal. On the day of the tragedy, at around 5pm on April 17, Sheriff was walking along Bristol Road South with Riley and Robinson when they spotted Stephens.

A scuffle broke out and Stephens ran across the road, while the other three ran back to a white Audi, parked nearby and drove around the corner into Lockwood Road.

Det Insp Jim Munro, from West Midlands Police CID, said: "Mbye jumped out of the car and the fighting continued. Stephens was armed with a knife and CCTV captured him lunging at Mbye.

"One of the recently purchased knives was used to injure Stephens, who ran back to the barber shop and collapsed on the floor, after dumping his knife and a pair of latex gloves.

"A member of the public administered first aid. Mbye, sadly, was not so fortunate. Riley bundled him into the Audi and Robinson drove him to hospital, where he died." On Monday, Stephens, 19 of William Savage Way, Smethwick, was found guilty of murder. Yesterday, he was jailed for life and told he will serve a minimum of 25 years.

Riley, 19 of no fixed address and 21-year-old Robinson, of Rann Close, Ladywood, were found guilty of aiding and abetting and will serve a minimum 20 years and 22 years. They were also convicted of wounding with intent against Stephens.

Robert Hazel who has been raising money for an autism charity by spending 50 hours in a box in the Dudley Tesco store

Robert boxing clever at Tesco

A LIBRARY manager was, quite literally, thinking inside the box for a challenge to raise awareness of autism and the work of a charity which helps children with the condition.

Robert Hazel, of Wednesbury, tried living inside a see-through box at the Tesco Extra store, in Birmingham Road, Dudley, starting at noon last Wednesday, completing the 50-hour challenge at 2pm on Friday.

Mr Hazel, community library manager at Tipton Library, agreed to take part in the Locked in for Autism campaign being staged by Staffordshire charity Caudwell Children. It has seen him living in full public view at the store and aimed to raise £2,000 for the charity.

Mr Hazel, aged 50, and a former Wodensborough High School pupil, said he hoped his efforts would raise more awareness, acceptance and understanding of autism. "I know parents of autistic children have told the charity the glass box is a really powerful metaphor for the condition," he said.

People can donate via www.justgiving.com/robert-hazellockedin

NEWS IN BRIEF

Firm opens up for kitchenware

A KITCHENWARE company has opened a shop at the new NEC Resorts World in Birmingham, creating seven new jobs. ProCook, which has 22 outlets across the country, has opened the new branch following a successful year which has seen the firm grow.

It recently celebrated a double-award at the 2015 eCommerce Awards for Excellence.

Managing director Daniel O'Neill said: "We are thrilled to have finally opened a store in Birmingham. We have been keeping an eye on the area for a long time."

Jack's set to be given big break

BBC Music has announced artist and producer Jack Garratt as the winner of its Introducing Artist of the Year Award, which will be hosted in Birmingham next month.

The scheme has kick-started the careers of Jake Bugg, Florence and the Machine and George Ezra since its launch in 2007.Garratt will perform alongside some of the biggest artists on December 10 to a live audience of 11,000 at Birmingham's Genting Arena and to millions more on BBC One, Radio 1, Radio 2. Tickets are available from bbc.co.uk/musicawards.

Shining light on good cause

A TREE of Light in aid of charity will be in West Bromwich Town Centre this Christmas.

Shoppers are invited to write a message of love, hope and remembrance to hang on the tree in exchange for a small donation to Macmillan Cancer Support.

Melvin Glasby, Chair of the West Bromwich Business Improvement District (BID), said: "We are delighted to be able to help Macmillan Cancer Support this Christmas."

Temporary teaching block is approved

A TEMPORARY teaching block will be built at a school in West Bromwich after plans were given the go-ahead.

Proposals for the new wooden single-storey block at Phoenix Collegiate, in Clarkes Lane, were this week handed the green light by Sandwell Council planners.

The council said the development can only remain on the site for two years. A report said: "The temporary nature of the structure is not considered worthy of permanent retention."

Prostitution patrols

Police in Wolverhampton are stepping up patrols following new concerns about prostitution in the Black Country. People have complained to officers about a red light district around the closed Harp pub on Lower Willenhall Street in Horseley Fields, near Willenhall.

IN MY VIEW
with Mark Andrews

The mind boggles over return of Porridge

NEARLY 40 years since the original series ended, the BBC is set to bring back classic sitcom Porridge.

But it won't be reviving the austere surroundings of HM Prison Slade, which was reputedly named after the Black Country glam rock band.

Writers Dick Clement and Ian Le Frenais say the new series will be right up to date, and set in a modern prison.

The mind boggles.

This presumably means Godber will be whiling his time away on a PlayStation, while Fletch is suing the governor under the Human Rights Act because his pillow was not plump enough.

McLaren will be serving up gourmet fittle in the canteen, and Grouty will be getting jiggy with the Amazonian female warder who smuggles his drug supplies in. And Fletch will probably rue the day he moaned about the bent judge when he finds his new cellmate is Rolf Harris.

■■■

NOT that the younger generation will be watching any of this, of course. Apparently, teenagers don't watch television any more, they get their entertainment on YouTube.

Actually, you can get proper TV programmes on YouTube. You can watch an entire episode of The Likely Lads or Mind Your Language in your local library if you have got the patience to watch all the different clips in the correct order.

But it seems teenagers prefer to spend their time watching other teenagers, unlikely stars who record weekly broadcasts from their own bedrooms, which are then transmitted to millions of registered followers.

For instance, there was a teenager called Rebecca Black whose wealthy parents paid for her to have her own pop video. The final work, an infuriatingly catchy ditty about her journey to school, was so excruciatingly bad that it catapulted her to worldwide stardom, and a reported 1.2 million youngsters now subscribe to her videos.

Another is Kimberly "Sweet Brown" Wilkins who became a minor celebrity in the US after ranting on a TV news bulletin about how a house fire had affected her bronchitis. Youths spend hours glued to their tablets, waiting for her to shout "Ain't nobody got time for that?"

Then there is Alfie Deyes, who reportedly has 4.1 million subscribers to his Pointless Blog which, to be fair, does exactly what it says on the tin. His young fans hang on his every word while he covers subjects such as why he loves his cactus, and how the speakers on his hi-fi system are 'sick'.

The sad thing is, mindless though this drivel is, you can't really blame the youngster for watching it. Because even Alfie's pot plants are more interesting than X Factor.

Staffordshire Wing air cadets help out as the wounded

The rescue boat in the water at Swan Pool during the exercise

A cadet calls for help for a 'victim' being resuscitated

Valley sets scene for dramatic emergency

Preparing for the worst, emergency services put themselves through the paces at Sandwell Valley. **JOHN SCOTT** reports

BARELY two weeks after a Russian plane plummeted out of the sky, West Midlands emergency services staged a mock crash of a jet brought down by terrorists.

Fifteen appliances crewed by over 70 firefighters – none of whom had prior knowledge of the nature of the exercise –rushed to the scene to discover that an aircraft with 80 passengers had broken up in mid air and the wreckage was strewn over a wide area of Sandwell Valley Country Park.

A technical rescue squad and a water rescue team from the Hereford and Worcester fire service and West Midland technical rescue squad were also scrambled to the scene.

To make matters worse it had come down in and around Swan Pool where a group of schoolchildren were taking part in an orienteering course at the time of the tragedy.

Wounded

Police from the Midland Regional Tactical Training Unit who specialise in disaster victim identification and public order training were joined by colleagues from the Operational Support Group and other officers.

They helped scour the area for survivors, set up a cordon to keep out the public and helped put names to the dead and injured.

A member of a fire crew from Birmingham International Airport arrived with details of the people and cargo on board the doomed jet.

Council staff were on hand to arrange emergency accommodation for the walking wounded while the environmental agency were also represented.

The role of the 100 casualties were played by young firefighters and air cadets.

One injured man was stuck 20 feet up a tree while others were stranded on an island in the middle of the lake, or fighting for life in the water.

Several dummies and fake body parts also littered the ground along with a plane seat with the remains of the pilot still sitting in it and pieces of wreckage.

West Midlands fire service organises around 100 exercises a year but only a handful are as large as the mock plane crash that was dubbed Exercise Up In The Air.

Crew Commander Wayne Turner from West Bromwich fire station who helped set it up said: "It took months to organise during which we had to meet with the other agencies involved as well as source and locate equipment."

West Bromwich station commander Andy Rainey, who assessed the exercise, declared afterwards: "All those who took part got out of it what they wanted.

"It is important that we are prepared to deal with a plane being brought down by terrorists over the West Midlands, especially in the current climate.

"The bomb on the Russian passenger plane brings home the importance of us being fully trained and prepared to deal with a similar incident.

Dramatic

"The public are relying on us to be able to support them and rescue them if it ever happens and practice makes perfect."

It is the latest dramatic emergency training exercise staged by crews in the region.

West Midlands fire service personnel, during the simulated aircraft crash at Sandwell Valley

A wounded survivor is stuck in a tree

Earlier this month, a scenario was created where a driver had lost control of a car and it had run through a hedge, down a bank and finished up on a railway track near Bridgnorth.

Then a train had hit the vehicle, pushing it hundred of yards along the track, before the train managed to stop.

By the time the emergency services arrived at the scene, there were multiple casualties in the car and on the train, with a fire also having broken out in one of the carriages.

The exercise was staged at Eardington Halt, on the Severn Valley Railway line, about one and a half miles outside of Bridgnorth.

The car and train were carefully put in position on the track and then the people playing the casualties took their places in the vehicles.

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Fracking is a backward step to take

FOR a journalist of his stature, Chris Moncrieff's remarks about fracking are remarkably shallow. In his column he compared would-be frackers to 'Victorian entrepreneurs', suggesting they represent a second Industrial Revolution and that 'niggles' should be brushed aside.

There are lots of problems with this superficial argument. Firstly, we no longer regard the things that were sacrificed in the first Industrial Revolution as 'niggles', unless you happen to see public health or the right to a decent education or working conditions as 'niggles'.

Secondly, Victorian pioneers were deploying what was then cutting-edge technology whereas today renewable technologies are cutting-edge and fracking is a backward step. Thirdly, fracking is being foisted on the public in the context of a body of knowledge about climate change and an understanding that our climate is heading towards a tipping point.

Fourthly, the people behind fracking are corporate employees who work for trans-nationals or offshoots of trans-nationals. Their main aim is to maximize return on the investment of shareholders.

Ways of achieving this include the manipulation of governments in order to get tax breaks, suppress competition and rig the so-called free market.

Now the only things standing between us and fracking are our councils. In a recent test case Lancashire Council voted not to allow fracking after councillors were swayed by the strength of public opinion. Cuadrilla is now amassing an army of lawyers and threatening to sue and bankrupt the council.For all I know, some of these company bosses may be personal friends of Mr Moncrieff but they are no friend to local democracy.

But then neither, on the evidence of his comments, is Mr Moncrieff. Apparently appalled that the House of Lords can thwart the government, it would seem he has no problem at all with a council being bullied by an unelected corporation. Such double standards are the stock in trade of much of the British press but I would have expected better from this veteran commentator.

R WARRINGTON
Tipton

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Backing on opening of new centre

WEDNESBURY'S jewel in the crown.

What wonderful news for Wednesbury town now that the new £8.1 million leisure centre is now finally built and has now opened up to the public.

The official opening will be in February.

This will certainly put the town of Wednesbury back on the map.

It has all the main facilities anyone could wish for.

Children in Wednesbury have not had the privilege of being able to have swimming lessons, having had to go outside the borough of Sandwell for the chance to swim.

Now, with the two new swimming pools in statute this has all changed.

This facility is for the young and elderly alike.

The nine Wednesbury councillors, who represent the town of Wednesbury welcome this with open arms.

CLLR GEOFF LEWIS
Wednesbury

How I met with Mario Lanza man

I WAS interested reading that the mysterious 'Mario Lanza man' is still around.

I know him. We shared the lift in Stourbridge Library at our first meeting.

He told me he'd attended Hill Street School (as I had done) but he didn't like it, because the boys were caned!

He is a couple of years older than me (I am now 82). I told him I'd never give him away, because it would spoil the mystery. He told me he would take his secret 'to the grave'! Over the years I have obtained 14 of his Mario Lanza cards which are mainly beer mats with his writing on the backs of them.

My favourite one states that Mario Lanza knew the 'F' word in 20 different languages!

Our most bizarre meeting took place in a reading room in Stourbridge Library. The 'Mario Lanza man' decided to show me the exercise he does, every night before he goes to bed. It consisted of standing upright with your head back as far as it would go, while counting up to 60 seconds. He said it always felt lovely afterwards.

J EDEN
Stourbridge

It's not all jam and Jerusalem

LAST week's Sandwell Chronicle published a letter from a Mrs N T Crosbee concerning the Townswomen's Guild and a book by Emmeline Pankhurst.

I was incensed by the snide little remark at the end of the letter concerning the WI.

I would point out to this person that the WI work as tirelessly for women in rural areas as the Townswomen's Guild does for urban women.

They campaign constantly on current topics, lobbying the Government on women's and children's issues and help rural women to attain their potential in today's world.

It is NOT Jam and Jerusalem and Mrs Crosbee should apologise to the WI for that remark. Shame on her (I bet she is a Scorpio!). I lived in a Wiltshire village for 30 years so know what I am talking about.

AVRIL PEARSALL
Grove Road
Warley

Slasher to be celebrated at library talks

THE colourful life of William Perry will be unveiled as part a series of library talks.

Perry, known as the Tipton Slasher, was the bare-knuckle champion of England twice during the 1800s.

His fighting career spanned 35 years but the talk will examine his life outside the ring.

The Life and Loves of the Tipton Slasher by Chris Smith will be held in Dudley library on November 24, from 2.30pm to 3.30pm.

A detailed look at the Stourbridge glass industry will also take place on November 27.

Whiskers on Kittens will be held in Stourbridge library from 2.30pm to 3.30pm.

Councillor Rachel Harris, cabinet member for health and wellbeing, said: "The Black Country has a wonderful history and these talks bring to life the local characters and places of a bygone age that have helped shape the diverse heritage and culture of the borough."

Admission for each talk costs £3. For further information call Dudley li-

Saplings planted to mark armistice

A BLACK Country school planted tree saplings to commemorate the fallen troops of the Great War.

Pupils at The Westminster School, in Rowley Regis, marked Armistice Day by planting the saplings to signify 109 fallen troops who sacrificed their lives from Rowley Regis.

Before the trees were planted, a Remembrance service was held, bringing together community representatives from around Sandwell. The ceremony was led by Rev Ian Shelton.

Each of the trees will be marked with the names of the men who laid down their lives and will provide a living memorial.

Academy is told it must do better in wake of inspection

ONE of Sandwell's biggest schools has been told it needs to do better after Ofsted inspectors found leaders had failed to drive through improvements since their previous visit.

The Oldbury Academy was given a 'requires improvement' rating following an inspection on September 23. The school was rated grade three across the board in the key areas of leadership and management, quality of teaching, learning and assessment, personal development, behaviour and welfare, pupil outcomes and study programmes.

The 1,620-pupil school in Pound Road received the same overall grade after its previous visit from the watchdog in September 2013.

A report noted that leaders had not ensured that the quality of teaching was high across the academy.

The most able pupils did not always reach their potential because work was too easy, the reports said, while disadvantaged students did not always catch up with other students quickly enough. Some work was marked inaccurately by teachers, the report said.

It added: "Others do not use assessment information effectively to plan work which is pitched at the right level for students.

"Students sometimes make mistakes that go unchecked in lessons. Others are not moved on to harder work quickly enough."

In his report lead inspector Richard Sutton also noted that attendance was low at times, particularly among disadvantaged students.

"Too many students miss too much school," he wrote. "While there are signs that attendance is improving, it is too low for disadvantaged students.

"This is a very important reason why these students do not always catch up with others quickly enough."

He added: "Students do not always show good attitudes to learning, particularly when teaching is not good."

Fury over huge pile of dumped tyres

Charlie Jolley with the pile of abandoned tyres in a lay-by off Potters Lane, Wednesbury

THIS is the scene after dozens of tyres were dumped at the side of a Wednesbury road which has been dogged by fly-tipping for a number of years.

Around to 70 to 80 tyres were first spotted in a lay-by in Potters Lane on November 6, with local businesses believing this is the second time in three months tyres have been left on that stretch of the road.

People have continuously dumped illegal waste, which has included rubbish, wooden sheds, kitchen cookers and gas bottles. Charlie Jolley, aged 78, has run nearby firm Coachcraft for 44 years, flagging up fly-tipping a number of times this year alone.

Mr Jolley, from Cannock, said: "This isn't just a one-off occurrence. It's been happening for years and I really feel something needs to be done to tackle the issue.

"I came into work Saturday morning and saw a big bunch of tyres dumped once again in that lay-by.

"It should be a big concern, as all it takes is some mindless people to walk by and set it alight, it's dangerous.

"Not only is it dangerous but fly-tipping creates such an eyesore and it's not something I want right next to my business."

Back in September council bosses said the issue of fly tipping was a 'huge problem' for authorities across the Black Country, but were working hard to tackle the issue.

There were 3,830 reports of fly tipping in Sandwell in 2014 – up 55 per cent from 2,462 three years before. The cost has also rocketed from £146,516 in 2012 to £236,015 in 2014.

Parking fees to come in for valley visitors

VISITORS will be charged to park at Sandwell Valley Country Park for the first time after councillors agreed to bring in the new measures.

Parking has always been free at the West Bromwich attraction but visitors could now find themselves paying £2 if they want to stay for more than four hours. Sandwell Council said the change was necessary to ensure funds could be generated for the upkeep of the site and new attractions including a restaurant,.

The move is expected to make £200,000 but the council insists the money will be used only for the maintenance of the park. The council's cabinet, chaired by leader Darren Cooper, approved the changes on Wednesday.

Visitors will be charged 40p for an hour, 80p for two hours, £1.20 for three hours and £1.60 for four hours. Anything above four hours will cost £2. The charges will apply between 9am and 6pm. Parking after 6pm will be free.

Floods of interest for Noah's Art from Sarah

A MOTHER hopes her business will go from strength to strength after it was backed by the Prince of Wales' charity.

Sarah Dibb, from Bearwood, said she can't believe how successful her business has been since she set it up while she was pregnant with son Noah.

Sarah and Noah, aged 19 months

What started out as a hobby has turned into a thriving job for Mrs Dibb, who began her 'button art' just over a year-and-a-half ago.

It is now known as Noah's Art and 28-year-old Mrs Dibb is her own boss, having left her job as a nursery nurse.

She said: "I just got bored as I was 14 days overdue and starting playing around with buttons. I started to make things to take my mind off being pregnant and it's gone from there. It started out as three pieces of art which I put up on my Facebook page and had lots of interest. I never thought it would become all of this, but I love it."

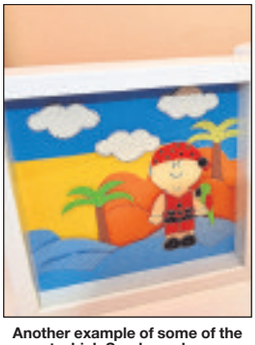
Mrs Dibb has received a grant from the Prince's Trust to help her continue to build the business, but she is waiting for the charity to confirm exactly how much she is to be given. Before Noah, who is now 19 months, was born, Mrs Dibb struggled with the baby blues as she had to keep returning to hospital due to fears over the baby's health.

Now she can't wait to see what the future holds for the business and thanked her husband Andrew, 28, for his support.

Noah's Art is based in Mr and Mrs Dibb's spare room in their house in Clifford Road.

Sarah seen at work producing another button art piece

Examples of Sarah's work that she is selling a local craft fairs



Another example of some of the art which Sarah produces

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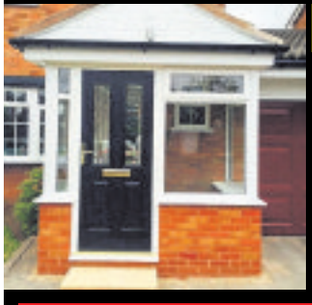

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Prison rated as 'good' by inspectors

HMP Birmingham has been rated 'good' by inspectors.

However, the Winson Green prison still has room for improvement as there has been an increase in the use of legal highs by inmates and staff sickness is deemed too prevalent.

The Independent Monitoring Board was tasked with inspecting the jail to investigate standards and requirements. One of the main concerns raised in the report was the increasing prevalence of legal highs. But the board said the prison had begun to adopt new methods to combat the issue and it was a good establishment overall.

The report said: "The board is concerned about the quantity of drugs, particularly new psychoactive substances [legal highs] coming into the prison."

Inspectors also said HMP Birmingham, which was privatised in October 2011 and is run by G4S, has come up with innovative schemes to reduce violence and ensure inmates and staff are kept safe.

Monitoring board chairman Rodger Lawrence said: "Together they have put in place a number of very effective, innovative strategies, including a violence reduction strategy, which demonstrates the power of involving prisoners themselves in finding solutions to problems."

Bogus RSPCA officers in theft of three dogs

THREE dogs – including one carrying a litter of pups – have been stolen from a house by thieves posing as RSPCA officers.

The bogus officials took the Yorkshire Terriers from the home in Blandford Road, Quinton.

Two smartly-dressed men turned up at the property claiming to be investigating neglect allegations.

The men took a nine-month-old puppy from the kitchen and her two-year-old parents, who are expecting a litter in less than a month's time, from the garden.

Removing

Investigating officer Dc Stewart McLaughlin, urged people to to be vigilant if any puppies are sold in the area.

"They purported to be from the RSPCA's neglect team and suggested the dogs 'looked in a bad way' before removing them from the house," he said. "We've made enquiries with the RSPCA and none of their officials were sent to the address so it's clear they've targeted the house in order to steal the dogs. It's not clear if they made their escape in a car so I'd ask for any witnesses to contact me – and if anyone has seen the dogs or offered them for sale I'd like to hear from them."

A photograph issued by police of the Yorkshire terriers which have been stolen

The men are both white and believed to be in their late 30s or 40s.

One is described as 5ft 6ins tall, muscular build with blonde-brown shaved hair, while the other was taller, around 6ft, with short black hair.

The dogs are black and tan in colour; one has a black and grey tail while the bitch has an all-black tail.

RSPCA spokesman Amy De-Keyzer said: "It is of great concern that there would appear to be individuals posing as RSPCA inspectors in the Birmingham area and we would appeal to anyone with further information about bogus RSPCA inspectors to contact their local police. "The RSPCA wants to reassure the public that all official RSPCA inspectorate officers carry proof of ID which will be shown on request.

"Anyone who has suspicions about a caller at their door is urged not allow access to their property or animals and to contact the police as a matter of priority.

"We are very sorry to hear about the theft of these dogs which must be incredibly distressing for the owner. We hope they are found soon and will help the police with their investigations as much as we can." Anyone with information is asked to contact Dc McLaughlin in the investigation team at South Birmingham Police on 101.

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Before
After

Family's joy as Florence hits 100

Celebrating her 100th is Florence Evans, of Tipton, at Himley Country Hotel, where she dined with friends and family

AN afternoon of fine dining was in store for one Black Country woman celebrating her 100th birthday. Florence Evans, from Princes End, Tipton, was treated to a three-course meal with friends and family to celebrate the momentous occasion at the Himley Country Hotel in Dudley.

Mrs Evans was born in Wallbrook, Coseley, and attended Christ Church School. After leaving school she worked at Clifford Williams' sewing factory in Tipton.

She married her husband, Harry, who was a baker, when she was 19 and they had one son together, Arthur, now aged 79. Arthur now lives in France with his wife Janet, who organised the birthday celebration alongside Mrs Evans great-nieces, Sara Pulley and Tracey Franks.

Mrs Pulley, aged 48, from Bilston, said: "Florence said to me 'I wish we could do it all again' because it was such a lovely afternoon."

Mrs Evans still lives in Princes End and is cared for on weekdays by Mrs Pulley, who added: "Florence is fantastic, she is still active in her mind and on the odd occasion I do take her out in the car."

Children's services warning by expert

A CHILDREN'S safety expert in Sandwell has warned that serious improvements still need to be made to ensure the protection of youngsters in the borough.

John Harris, independent chairman of Sandwell Safeguarding Children Board, reaffirmed the challenge facing authorities in a new report.

His root-and-branch review concluded 'substantial challenges remain for the overall effectiveness of safeguarding in Sandwell'.

The challenges are not just centred on Sandwell Council's children's services department – which was ranked inadequate by Ofsted earlier this year – but other partner organisations including the police and child and adolescent mental health services.

Mr Harris said: "The past year has seen significant progress in improving safeguarding arrangements in Sandwell, with the board itself beginning to deliver its own statutory responsibilities more effectively. We have a robust and cohesive safeguarding model with strong commitment from partner agencies to prioritise keeping children in

By David Cosgrove

Sandwell safe. Nevertheless, the board's annual report shows that there are continuing challenges for the local authority, police and health to improve the quality and consistency of practice, and to work in a co-ordinated way."

According to the report, significant areas of weakness remain in the council's children's services, while there are 'substantial concerns' about child and adolescent mental health services. Praise is reserved for the efforts of the NHS, with Mr Harris reporting 'there were examples of good practice in all services reviewed and a strong infrastructure in the CCG to lead and oversee safeguarding and health support for looked after children'."

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Detectives awarded for catching poisoner

The team from West Midlands Police which won the Detective Investigation of the Year award

LEADING detectives have been awarded for their efforts in catching a former special constable who poisoned colleagues at a care home in West Bromwich.

Detective Chief Inspector Michaela Kerr and her team were commended for their 'teamwork and tenacity' and bagged the Detective Investigation of the Year award. The team were recognised for their efforts in Operation Palace, which was the investigation into Melissa Swift, who tried to poison her colleagues at a care home in West Bromwich.

Members of the team attended the Police Federation's National Detectives' Forum held in Wales. Swift pleaded guilty in February to three counts of attempted murder after an investigation into her conduct at Goldfield Court.

The former police volunteer further admitted making threats to kill after posting anonymous letters smeared with blood to two other victims including her older sister.

Birmingham Crown Court was told Swift remained in custody awaiting sentence.It comes after Pc Adam Koch and Pc Jean Stevens were honoured were recognised with a national award at the Police Bravery Awards ceremony in central London recently.

Pc Adam Koch managed to wrestle Mohamoud Elmi to the ground despite suffering serious wounds, while Pc Jean Stevens arrested the attacker.

The pair had been dispatched to reports of a disturbance at the Madrassa Qasim Ul Uloom centre on June 15, 2013 after two worshippers were attacked.

Elmi, of Washwood Heath, was found not guilty by reason of his insanity after a trial in February last year. He was detained indefinitely under the Mental Health Act.

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Sandwell CHRONICLE

Express & Star

To the Manager ,

Its nearly Christmas and the West Bromwich Christmas Light Switch on is almost here.

This very popular event always creates big crowd attraction and gives the local community the opportunity to come together and celebrate the annual Christmas light extravaganza.

Your Local Newspaper The Express & Star and Sandwell Chronicle, helps celebrate the event by printing an eight page feature on the Event .

Appearing in the Express & star on the 18th November and the Sandwell Chronicle that same week the supplement pages aim to help promote the event and to remind the local community when and where the event is being held .

These pages always prove to be popular with the readers as they love to read about what is going on right on their doorstep.

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Remembering lost loved ones

FAMILIES and friends can remember loved ones over the festive season by sponsoring lights on a Christmas tree.

Business leaders in West Bromwich are urging residents to support Macmillan's Tree of Light. The Christmas tree will stand in the town centre raising money for the Macmillan Cancer Support charity.

West Bromwich Business Improvement District is encouraging residents to write messages of love, hope and remembrance to hang on the tree.

Melvin Glasby, chairman of the business group, said: "We are delighted to be able to help Macmillan Cancer Support this Christmas. Macmillan is a wonderful charity that helps many people around the country."

Council to bring in changes concerning new takeaways

SANDWELL Council is reviewing its hot food takeaway planning policies to bring them up to date and to take into account the increase in such premises in the borough.

The council is urging people to take part in a consultation process running until December 14 so they can take local opinion into account.

A report on the consultation highlights obesity, the need to restrict hot-food takeaways around schools and colleges, and the clustering of establishments in town centres and suburban shopping centres.

Under the main changes suggested is a move to alter the permitted percentage of A5-category premises – fried chicken, fish and chip, kebab and pizza – within a retail centre.

The document has also been updated in line with up-to-date local and national policies.

Regeneration chief Councillor Paul Moore, said the issue was important and the council wanted the views of people who use takeaways, run them or live near them. To view the document go to www.sandwell.gov.uk/downloads/file/2614/hot_food_takeaway_supplement ary_planning_document

Views can be submitted in person at Sandwell Council House, by post to Strategic Planning, Sandwell House House, Oldbury B69 3DE or via email to ldf_planning@sandwell.gov.uk

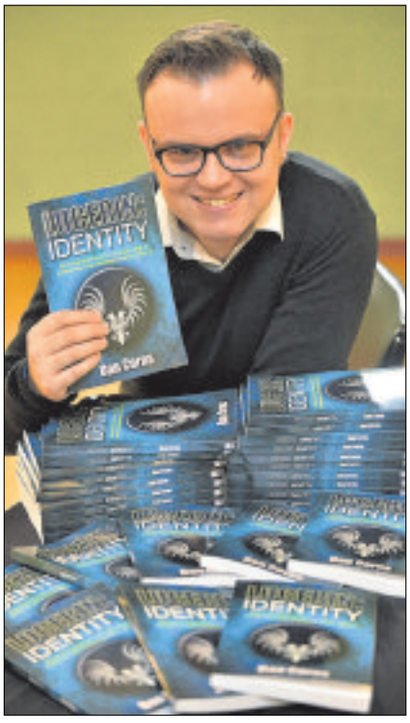
Light duties for Mayor

SANDWELL'S mayor will be joined by Santa in a fun-filled family Christmas lights switch-on in Blackheath on Saturday.

Mayor Councillor Barbara Price will officiate at the ceremony in Blackheath High Street at 6pm. Councillor Kerrie Carmichael, town lead member for Rowley Regis, said: "We welcome people to come along and get into the festive spirit.

"There will be walkabout performers, charity stalls, a festive market, funfair and live entertainment on stage from 3pm to 7pm. There's plenty of fun for all the family."

Action all the way in Dan's new book



Teacher Dan Corns with his new book Lucerin: Identity

HIS appetite for fiction was so great as a seven-year-old he was given an adult library card because he had read every children's book in Bilston library.

Now Dan Corns, who lives in Wednesbury, is hoping to have his own work on the shelves after the release of his debut children's novel.

The 32-year-old English teacher has recently unleashed Lucerin: Identity, an action novel he hopes will 'grip' youngsters and encourage them to write their own stories.

"I devoured everything in the kids' section and my nan had to sign a form allowing me to borrow books from the main library," he said. "I've wanted to be a writer since the age of three so to have my own book published is fantastic."

His book, tells the tale of a 15-year-old boy who discovers that he has psychic powers and is recruited by a mysterious organisation to complete a series of tasks on their behalf.

Mr Corns, who teaches at Coppice Performing Arts School in Wolverhampton, said he came up with the idea four years ago and received further impetus to complete the novel after noticing how frustrated many of his pupils were with the books on offer at school.

Mr Corns said he has already started on a sequel.

Lucerin: Identity has a target audience of 11-16 year-olds and is available from Amazon and Waterstones.

No further action on councillor's son

THE son of a senior Sandwell councillor arrested as part of an investigation into the sale of former council properties will face no further action. Azeem Hafeez, the son of Sandwell Council's former deputy leader Mahboob Hussain, will not be charged, police have confirmed.

Mr Hafeez was arrested from an address in Oldbury on April 1 this year. Police spokesman Billy Corrigan said: "The 30-year-old man who was arrested in connection with an investigation into irregularities regarding the sale of former Sandwell council properties between June 2012 and September 2014 has been released without charge and told no further action will be taken against him."

Oldbury ward councillor Mr Hussain stood down as chairman of the council's asset management and land disposal committee last October. At the time, the council said Mr Hussain's resignation was a neutral act which did not imply any wrongdoing.

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Get ready for the craic with Irish music festival

By Danny Farragher

A host of venues in the Midlands will be going green next week just for the craic.

However, this time it's nothing to do with the environment because Birmingham is hosting its first Tradfest which will celebrate Irish traditional music.

Thefestival will be four days of music running from November 26 to 29 across venues centred around the Irish quarter in Digbeth.

The shenanigans will be taking place at The Irish Centre, The Crossing, Molloy's Ceol Castle, The Old Crown, St Anne's Hall, The Spotted Dog, Cleary's, The Bull's Head and the White Swan.

A host of artists who are booked to play include Mike McGoldrick, Dezi Donnelly, Jim Murray and John Joe Kelly, Mary Bergin, The Damien O'Kane Band, May Monday, the Mairtin O'Connor Trio, Karen Tweed & Adrian Burns, Sean Kane and the McEvoys. There will also be album launches from The London Lasses with Chris O'Malley, Patsy Moloney and Karen Tweed & Adrian Burns.

Ulsterman and honorary Yorkshireman Damien O'Kane will be playing the Tradfest

Renowned

Renowned Irish flautist,who comes from Manchester, McGoldrick made his name with, among many projects, Scottish band Capercaillie and plays the tin whistle and uilleann pipes.

He is a regular on the long-running Transatlantic Sessions and has toured extensively as part of McGoldrick, McCusker & Doyle.

This time he will be playing as part of McGoldrick, Donnelly, Murray and Kelly.

Singer/songwriter O'Kane is no stranger to the Midlands, he has played Birmingham and Wolverhampton as part of his wife Kate Rusby's tour. This time he is bringing his own band.

The expert banjo player, who will be running one of the workshops on the instrument, has this month released Areas of High Traffic, his first solo album for five years. The album is O'Kane putting a modern slant on traditional tunes which are linked to both his own story of leaving Northern Ireland and about immigration in general.

The festival will include many workshops focusing on traditional music skills with many of the artists on the bill passing on their expertise.

There will also be the first Molloy Award handed out.

The award aims to find and reward the best young talent within Irish traditional music and is named after Anne and Pat Molloy who were great teachers of Irish music in and around Birmingham. The finalists for the award are: Athrú, Élan, Mearganta, Obtuse and Out The Gap. It will be presented on November 28 in The Munster Suite of the Irish Centre, doors open 3pm.

Anyone wanting the enjoy the festival can buy weekend tickets, although these are selling very well, or simply get them for an individual day or for a particular concert through the Tradfest website www.birminghamtradfest.co.uk.

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There was lots of fun to be had on the traditional merry-go-round

Proper German bratwurst hotdogs were the order of the day for these visitors

Bargain hunters celebrate the return of the German market in Birmingham

From left, Jennifer Edwards, Ellen pope, Robin Wild and Leah Gallagher

Bustling crowds flooding the streets of the second city at the event

Wunderbar in Brum

IT provided a big German willkommen as the annual Frankfurt Market arrived in the West Midlands.

Whether its huge bratwurst sausages, colourful fairground rides or even a singing moose – the market has become a popular Midland Christmas fixture and is set to bring millions of visitors to the region.

Scores of market stalls opened for business in Birmingham last Thursday to herald the countdown to Christmas in the city centre for a six-week run up until December 22.

Officials vowed this year's event would be a success despite concerns over disruption caused by major works at Paradise Circus.

It is believed more than 5.5 million visitors will come into the city during its run alongside other festive city centre events.

An ice rink has also returned to Centenary Square alongside the famous big wheel next to the Library of Birmingham giving visitors specular views.

A craft market is also part of the event – but will be in Centenary Square only due to Chamberlain Square being closed because of the Paradise redevelopment work.

Pedestrian access to Centenary Square from Victoria Square will be via Fletchers Walk.

Birmingham Christmas markets will be open from 10am to 9pm each day, offering visitors the chance to sample an array of delicacies and drinks.

The Lord Mayor of Birmingham, Councillor Raymond Hassall, officially opened the German market.

He said: "It is a tremendous honour to be able to officially welcome the Christmas Markets back to Birmingham.

"This is one of the most anticipated events in Birmingham's calendar, drawing millions of visitors to our city each year."

Everyone was getting into the Christmas spirit, even four-legged friends

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Closing date for orders 16 December 2015 All packs will be sent out from 1 December

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fast theticket

A cut above

Sweeney Todd opera – Page 21

Bill Bailey

See Page 21

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Sandwell Chronicle Thursday, November 19, 2015

Guys & Dolls

Tues - Dec 5
New Alexandra, B'ham
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Visit **www.atgtickets.com**

Chvrches

Wednesday, 7pm
02 Academy, B'ham
The Brit Award nominees are on tour in support of their second album Every Open Eye, the follow up to their 2013 breakthrough The Bones of What You Believe.
Visit **www.academymusicgroup.com**

Mini Mansions

Wednesday, 7pm
Rainbow, B'ham
Punk is no stranger to Mini Mansions, but neither is melody. While they all played in various DIY bands they also share an affinity for The Zombies, Gorillaz and Devo.
Visit **www.therainbowvenues.co.uk**

A Murder Is Announced

Tuesday - Nov 28
Grand Theatre, W'ton
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Visit **www.grandtheatre.co.uk**

POP & ROCK

Rock And Roll Paradise
Sun at 7.30pm, £18 - £23.90
Wolverhampton Wulfrun Hall, WV1 1RQ. 0870 320 7000

The Sex Pistols Experience: Sex Pistols Tribute
Fri at 7.30pm, £12 - £14
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

Mad Dog Mcrea
Thu at 7.30pm, £12 - £14
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

Virgil And The Accelerators
Wed at 7.30pm - 11pm, £12.50 - £14
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ. 01902 401211

Buzzcocks
Fri at 7pm, £22
Wolverhampton Slade Rooms, WV1 1RQ. 0870 320 7000

Apocalyptica
Tue at 7pm, £16.50
Wolverhampton Wulfrun Hall, WV1 1RQ. 0870 320 7000

Marilyn Manson - SOLD OUT
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Wolverhampton Civic Hall, WV1 1RQ.
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Robbie Williams tribute
Fri at 7.30pm, £6/8
Arena Aldridge,Walsall, WS9 8QR. Call 0844 884 2920

Elvis by Memphis Mike
Sat at 7.30pm, £6/8
Arena Aldridge, Walsall, WS9 8QR.
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Chas And Dave
Fri at 7pm, £25 - £28
Wolverhampton Wulfrun Hall, WV1 1RQ.
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Pond Floyd: Pink Floyd Tribute
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Pale + Support
Fri at 10pm, £3-5
The Grapes, Stafford
ST16 2HZ. Call 07989 174631

James Morrison
Wed at 7pm, £26.50
The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY.
Call 0121 643 0428

Tankus The Henge
Sat - Sun at 8pm - 1am, £6
The Boars Head, Kidderminster, DY10 1EW.
Call 01562 861870

Cliff & The Shadz
Mon at 7.30pm, £10 - £12
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

Imagine Dragons
Fri at 7.30pm, £30
Barclaycard Arena, B1 2AA.
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New Order - SOLD OUT
Tue at 7pm, £37.50
Wolverhampton Civic Hall, WV1 1RQ. 0870 320 7000

Backyard Babies
Sun at 7pm, £16
Wolverhampton Slade Rooms, WV1 1RQ. 0870 320 7000

The Wailers
Fri at 6pm, £19.50
O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

Nickelback: No Fixed Address
Sat at 6.30pm, £38.50
Genting Arena, Birmingham, B40 1NT. Call 0121 780 4141

Bon Giovi
Sat at 7.30pm, £12 - £13
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Judas Priest
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Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.
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Sat at 7.30pm, £19.50
Wolverhampton Wulfrun Hall, WV1 1RQ.
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Sack Sabbath: Black Sabbath Tribute And Mentallica: Metallica Tribute
Sat at 7pm,
Wolverhampton Slade Rooms, WV1 1RQ.
Call 0870 320 7000

Four Star Mary
Thu at 7pm,
Wolverhampton Slade Rooms, WV1 1RQ.
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Amped
Wed at 7.30pm,
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Definitely Might Be And Adored: Oasis And The Stone Roses Tribute
Fri at 7.30pm, £8
The River Rooms, Stourbridge, DY8 1JN. 01384 397177

Brit Floyd
Sun at 7.30pm, £29.50
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA.
Call 0121 780 3333

Akala
Thu at 7.30pm, £20
Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton, WV1 4AN.
Call 01902 572090

Mini Mansions
Wed at 7.30pm, £10
The Rainbow, Birmingham, B12 0LD.
Call 0121 753 1818

Rhino And The Ranters
Sat at 12am, £6 - £7
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge, DY8 3TB. Call 01384 374410

Chvrches
Wed at 7pm, £17.50
O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB.
Call 0121 622 8250

Stillmarillion: Marillion Tribute
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The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

Ricky Ross
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Birmingham Town Hall, B3 3DQ.
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Lau
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The Glee Club, Birmingham, B5 4TD.
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Calan
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Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton, WV1 4AN.
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The Neon Collective
Tue at 8.30pm, £5
Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton, WV1 4AN.
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Steeleye Span
Thu at 7.30pm, £19.50 - £22.50
Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock, WS11 1DE.
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Celtic Roots Night
Fri at 7.30pm, £8
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Sunjay
Fri at 8pm, £8
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JAZZ & BLUES

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Palace Theatre, Redditch, B98 8AE. Call 01527 65203

Rising Stars - Harriet Krijgh
Mon at 6pm - 9pm, £10
Birmingham Town Hall, B3 3DQ.
Call 0121 780 3333

Lee Mead: Some Enchanted Christmas Evening
Sat at 7.30pm,
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.
Call 01543 412121

Brass Minifest
Mon, times vary, £4
Birmingham Conservatoire, Birmingham City University, B3 3HG. Call 0121 331 5901

THEATRE

Welsh National Opera: Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber Of Fleet Street
Fri at 7.15pm, Sat at 7.15pm, £11.50 - £109.50
Birmingham Hippodrome, B5 4TB. Call 0844 338 5000

Beryl
Tue at 7pm, Wed at 7.45pm, Thu at 2.45pm, 7.45pm, £17 - £20
Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

Contained
Fri at 7.30pm,
Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton, WV1 1SE. Call 01902 321321

The Lion The Witch And The Wardrobe
Mon at 10.15am, Tue at 10.15am, Wed at 2.30pm, 7pm, Thu at 2.30pm, 7pm, £7.50 - £35
Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

Calamity Jane: Redditch Operatic Society
Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm, 7.30pm,
Palace Theatre, Redditch, B98 8AE.
Call 01527 65203

Guys And Dolls
Tue at 7.30pm, Wed at 2.30pm, 7.30pm, Thu at 7.30pm, £15 - £47.50
New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, B5 4DS. Call 0844 871 3011

Peppa Pig's Surprise
Sat at 10am, 1pm, 4pm, Sun at 10am, 1pm, 4pm, £13.50 - £22.90
New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, B5 4DS.
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Treasure Island
Fri at 10.15am, 1.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm, 7pm, Sun at 1pm, 5pm, Tue at 2.30pm, 7pm, Wed at 10.15am, 1.30pm, Thu at 10.15am, 1.30pm,
The Old Rep Theatre, Birmingham, B5 4DY.
Call 0121 605 5116

Last Night A DJ Saved My Life
Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm, 7.30pm, £17 - £54.14
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, WV1 1DE. Call 01902 573320

Elvis That's The Way It Was
Fri at 7.30pm, £19.50
Wolverhampton Civic Hall, WV1 1RQ. Call 0870 320 7000

A Murder Is Announced
Tue at 7.30pm, Wed at 2.30pm, 7.30pm, Thu at 7.30pm, £15.50 - £26
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, WV1 1DE. Call 01902 573320

COMEDY

Dave Gorman: Gets Straight To The Point (The PowerPoint)
Thu at 8pm, £24
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

One Man Breaking Bad: The Unauthorised Parody
Wed at 7.30pm,
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, ST16 2LT. Call 01785 254653

TALKS

Sally Morgan: Psychic Sally On The Road
Thu at 7.30pm, £23.50 - £27.90
Wolverhampton Civic Hall, WV1 1RQ.
Call 0870 320 7000

An Evening With Pam Ayres
Sun at 5pm, £25
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, ST16 2LT.
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OTHER EVENTS

MCM Birmingham Comic Con
Sat, Sun
The NEC Birmingham, B40 1NT.
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Check out full listings in **the ticket** in Friday's Express & Star

Soraya is razor sharp as Johanna

IN the world of musical theatre, there are few singers as exciting as Soraya Mafi.

In 2014, she won the Maggie Teyte Prize, and this year took second in the Kathleen Ferrier Awards and was the winner in the 2015 Royal Overseas League. Make no mistake, Mafi is a major new talent.

The former shop assistant from Bury graduated from the Royal College of Music, and can now be seen as the tragic Johanna when Welsh National Opera bring Stephen Sondheim's Sweeney Todd to Birmingham Hippodrome from tonight (Thu) to Saturday.

Mafi's credits have included roles in Peter Grimes, Il re pastore, Pirates of Penzance, The Mikado and Dido and Aeneas (for BBC Radio 3), not to mention the title role Arianna in Creta at the London Handel Festival plus roles in WNO's productions of I Puritani and Orlando earlier this week.

She stars alongside baritone David Arnsperger as Sweeney Todd and Scottish soprano Janis Kelly as Mrs Lovett in the gory Victorian story updated to the 1970s.

"It's a wonderful story," she says. "Sweeney Todd has come back from being abroad, having been banished, and he is seeking revenge on Judge Turpin. When he returns, he discovers that his daughter, Johanna, who I play, is being held captive.

"She's a teenage girl, aged 16 or 17. She's been stuck in her bedroom reading for years and questions whether her existence is normal. She's struggling with life and asking how she can cope with it. She ends up at an asylum and shoots the guy who runs it. It is all action, from beginning to end."

Soraya Mafi, as Johanna, and George Newton-Fitzgerald, as Jonas Fogg, in a hard-hitting scene from Welsh National Opera's Sweeney Todd

Mafi has an operatic background but has enjoyed the switch to musical theatre. "I've faced bigger challenges than this, vocally-speaking. But in terms of energy levels, it's up there. Johanna is always on the edge.

"It's very different to what I'm used to. In general, as an opera singer, you are primarily thinking about the sound that you are creating. But with musical theatre, it has to come from the emotion of the story. You have to not be afraid to express sorrow or happiness."

'Things don't pan out the way you want them to'

Bill's not in limbo now

WHEN asked to describe his new show, Limboland, which plays Wolverhampton's Civic Hall tonight (Thu), Bill Bailey says: "It's about when things don't pan out the way you want them to. That's a rich seam comedically, the gap between how we imagine our lives to be and how they really are."

The show has proved a great hit, wowing audiences in Australia, New Zealand, Singapore and Hong Kong and across the UK, with tonight's show the second consecutive performance in Wolverhampton.

"It's a bit different to previous shows in as much as it's more focused on personal accounts which is quite daunting at first," he said. "I do a lot of political stuff and tell stories about my family holidays that go wrong, and travels in the Arctic and jungle."

He gives an example: "I had this desire to take my whole family to see the Northern Lights, so I persuaded them all to come to Norway. I had a vision of how it was going to be, a transcendent experience, shushing beautifully through the snow then all standing in a wood surrounded by Sami tribesmen looking at the Northern Lights overhead.

"Instead we were on a white knuckle ride in the dark on a dogsled pulled by baying hounds and it was very scary. People were screaming. My wife's father fell off the back of the sled and I thought he was a goner. It was January, minus 22 and bitterly cold.

"And it was all my idea. All the time I was thinking 'why didn't we just watch a documentary about the Northern Lights?' At the same time, a little bit of you is thinking, if everyone survives, this is going in the show."

Rock 'n' roll and graphs with laughs

THERE is a varied array of one-nighters on offer this weekend.

Chas N Dave bring their Rockney songs to the Wulfrun Hall tomorrow (Fri), the same night Peter Storm performs as Elvis in That's The Way It Was next door at the Civic. Then the Wulfrun hosts Abbamania on Saturday.

Celtic Woman at the Symphony Hall on Saturday features some of Ireland's finest singers and musicians, while at Birmingham Town Hall that night Festival of the Spoken Nerd see the funny side of science in new show Just for Graphs.

The music of the 1950s is celebrated in Rock N Roll Paradise at the Wulfrun on Sunday.

Miss Marple has date with murder

JUDY Cornwell, best known as Daisy in classic sitcom Keeping Up Appearances, is putting on the tweeds and hat as Agatha Christie's elderly spinster sleuth Miss Marple. She follows in the sensibly-shoed steps of Joan Hickson, Margaret Rutherford, Angela Lansbury and Geraldine McEwan.

Miss Marple features in A Murder Is Announced, investigating when residents of Chipping Cleghorn are astonished to see an advert for a forthcoming murder in their newspaper, including time and place. The vintage mystery is at Wolverhampton Grand Theatre from Tuesday to Saturday (28th).

Neverland and Narnia on stage

THE festive season is getting under way at the region's theatres with Birmingham Rep's main house being turned into Narnia and a new version of Peter Pan flying into Stratford.

The Lion, The Witch And The Wardrobe, by CS Lewis and dramatised by Adrian Mitchell, is on from tomorrow (Fri) until January 16 at Birmingham Repertory Theatre.

The Royal Shakespeare Company's gently feminist take on JM Barrie's Neverland classic, Wendy & Peter Pan by Ella Hickson, returned this week at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre and continues throughout December and January.

Sandwell Chronicle Thursday, November 19, 2015

Veal meat again, I trust

Seeking comfort food on a chilly night? **LEIGH SANDERS** checks out Bellagio Ristorante Italiano in West Bromwich

Perfect for a winter's evening – the Bellagio was our man's first choice for comforting food

The restaurant's interior is beautifully decorated

THROUGHOUT history, the 'gate' scandals have gripped the world with their memorable breaches of normal accepted behaviour.

While not exactly matching Watergate for its shock value, for my pal and I no meal will be the same pass without mention of . . . Vealgate.

It was a cold, dark evening when we ventured to Bellagio, tucked away in a corner of West Bromwich, so hearty, warm food was definitely called for.

Good things had been said about the restaurant. Although we had never been before, Italian places always give big portions, right?

Upon arrival, it ticked a lot of boxes. As there is also a hotel on-site the parking is ample; you should be able to find a space here no matter what day you visit.

On entering the restaurant, the positivity continues. Inside it is beautifully decorated with a modern feel and a touch of class.

Courteous

A few of the light fittings seem an odd choice, but the warm atmosphere is welcoming – especially when the weather outside is grim.

The staff are well-dressed, polite and courteous and add little touches such as taking your coats and offering menu recommendations.

We took a little while to decide on our food as the menu is vast but they didn't hurry or pester and left us to it.

The menu is pretty fish-heavy and offers up some interesting options. One of these grabbed my friend's attention straight away. Sounding like a spell straight out of Harry Potter's World, she opted for avocado diverso – the superfood fruit served with crab meat, Marie Rose sauce, smoked trout, horseradish and sun-blushed tomatoes. We wondered if you shouted the 'avocado diverso' at the waiter he may turn into some sort of amphibian wearing a bow tie. But alas, he just greeted the request with one of those warm smiles and jotted our order down on his notepad as if we hadn't been the first buffoons to try such a stunt.

My friend found the dish a little flavourless, which was a shame. It was full of contrasting textures and certainly looked great, but she thought it a little bland and had expected more given its colourful name and description.

I chose the the prosciutto Caprese consisting of Parma ham, buffalo mozzarella in basil sauce, served with sun- dried tomatoes. The cool flavour, and indeed temperature, of the mozzarella pearls offset the salty tang of the ham. Although my enjoyment was dampened slightly by my friend's insistence that the cheese looked like the nether-regions of a sheep, I thought it tasted great and they were the highlight of the dish.

Then came Vealgate. Having had a fish-based starter, my friend decided she wanted something different for her main.

Browsing the menu, the waiter and I tried to offer up helpful suggestions until something caught her eye.

"Veal is usually really nice," I said. "Why don't you try that?" The reply seemed confident enough: "Sure," she said.

So then we discussed why a lot of people don't really like veal because of what it is and where it comes from.

"What do you mean?" came the quizzical response. "Well, it is baby cow and not everyone likes that." Her jaw hit the table with such force I thought the sturdy furniture would snap in two. "Baby cow? I thought veal was deer." Her face turned a shade of red that matched the decorative bottles of wine, as she sheepishly admitted she had been thinking of venison

The saltimbocca alla Romana was described as veal scallops cooked in white wine and garnished with Parma ham and sage. When it arrived, we found out that it was literally just a plate of veal. A few leaves had been added for effect, but the dish was one dimensional. It tasted good though. The veal was tender and, as with my starter, the Parma ham added a salty backdrop to the dish. Luckily, we had added French fries on the side.

I had the penne pollo gamberetti – penne pasta topped with prawns and diced chicken in a cream sauce. It certainly was creamy; the thick texture of the sauce managed to retain its heat and warm me up as I ate. The prawns were a little bland, but the chicken was beautiful and, overall the dish was really good.

We weren't quite done yet and I was determined to find something my friend would love before heading home. She's no fussy eater by any means, but had just made the wrong choices that evening.

Dessert was our final chance to put things right. Fortunately, the caramel budino hit the spot. It was packed with contrasting textures and flavours and was a 'happy conclusion' to her meal out. The white chocolate and fruit floret went down equally well on my side of the table.

Overall it would be harsh to mark Bellagio down based on the personal preferences of one diner as one of us had fully enjoyed the evening, the other had made bad choices.

Have yourself a MERRY CHRISTMAS

INDIAN

STARTER
Mixed Skewer: Chicken Tikka, Lamb Tikka & King Prawns. Mushrooms, Baby Potatoes & Cherry Tomatoes served with a fresh mixed salad

MAIN
Kapsila Chicken: Chicken breast with mixed winter vegetables and onion in keema sauce. Served with boiled egg keema & a side of pilau rice or naan bread

SIDE DISH
Mixed seasoned vegetables in a medium/mild spice sauce

DESSERT
Indian Shemmi: Sweet pastry cooked in milk, with tea or coffee & an after dinner mint

ENGLISH

STARTER
Winter Vegetable Soup or Prawn Cocktail

MAIN
Traditional Christmas Dinner: Turkey Breast with stuffing & roast potatoes. Sprouts, baby carrots & peas served with cranberry sauce & gravy

DESSERT
Christmas pudding & custard with tea or coffee & an after dinner mint

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CHOICE

Tess Daly

Strictly Come Dancing (BBC1, 6.50pm)
The pro-celebrity contest leaves the confines of the studio for its annual trip to Blackpool, where the eight remaining couples are given a chance to show of their latest routines in a programme broadcast live from the famous Tower Ballroom. As ever, Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman present as judges Len Goodman, Darcey Bussell, Bruno Tonioli and Craig Revel Horwood deliver their verdicts on the various performances, and with the grand final now only one month away, the stakes will be higher than ever.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Simply Nigella. (R) **12.00** BBC News; Weather. **12.10** Football Focus. **12.50** Saturday Sportsday. **1.00** Bargain Hunt. (R) **2.00** Live Tennis: ATP World Tour Finals. The semi-finals at the O2 in London. **4.30** Final Score. **5.10** Now You See It. **5.40** BBC News. **5.50** Regional Programme.

6.00 Pointless Celebrities. Ed Baines, Paul Rankin, Tony Singh, Cyrus Todiwala, Jean-Christophe Novelli, Jo Pratt, Richard Burr and Frances Quinn compete in a "food and drink" themed edition of quiz.

6.50 Strictly Come Dancing. The pro-celebrity contest leaves the confines of the studio for its annual trip to Blackpool, where the eight remaining couples are given a chance to show of their latest routines in a programme broadcast live from the famous Tower Ballroom. As ever, Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman present as judges Len Goodman, Darcey Bussell, Bruno Tonioli and Craig Revel Horwood deliver their verdicts on the various performances, and with the grand final now only one month away, the stakes will be higher than ever.

8.10 Doctor Who. The Doctor, Clara and their old friend Rigsy investigate a strange alien world hidden on a street in the heart of London, and once again cross paths with immortal Viking Ashildr.

9.00 Casualty. Iain dismisses Dixie's concerns about Jess as mere jealousy. Cal panics when baby Matilda develops a rash.

9.50 The National Lottery Live. Ore Oduba presents as the all-important winning numbers are revealed.

10.00 BBC News; Weather.

10.20 Match of the Day. Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches, including Manchester City v Liverpool and Watford v Manchester United; National Lottery Update.

11.50 The Apprentice. The off duty candidates are interrupted by Lord Sugar, who gives them the challenge of opening a discount store and turning products into profit within two days. (R)

12.50 Weather for the Week Ahead.
12.55 BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 NFL Highlights. **6.45 Film:** The Hunchback of Notre Dame. (1939) **8.35 Film:** Sinbad the Sailor. (1947) **10.30** Animal Park. (R) **11.00** Ronnie's Animal Crackers. (R) **11.30** Ronnie's Animal Crackers. (R) **12.00** My Life on a Plate. (R) **12.45** My Life on a Plate. (R) **1.30** Len and Ainsley's Big Food Adventure. (R) **2.15** Child Stars: Talking Pictures. **2.55 Film:** In Search of the Castaways. (1962) Children's adventure, starring Hayley Mills. **4.30** Escape to the Continent. (R) **5.30** The Great Pottery Throw Down. The remaining potters have to make 10 identical long necked vases. (R)

6.30 Flog It! Thomas Plant and Anita Manning visit Warwick Castle, where they value a collection of tribal items and an extensive postcard collection. Presenter Paul Martin also takes a behind-the-scenes look at the prop and set design workshops at the Royal Shakespeare Company in Stratford-upon-Avon. (R)

7.30 Great Continental Railway Journeys. Michael Portillo ventures deep into the Black Forest, where he discovers how Hansel and Gretel helped to unify the German nation. (R)

8.30 Dad's Army. Captain Mainwaring devises a cunning new way of foiling Hitler's invasion plans – but it results in Pike getting trapped in the middle of a minefield. (R)

9.00 QI XL. An extended edition in which Stephen Fry is joined by Sandi Toksvig, Aisling Bea, Susan Calman and regular panellist Alan Davies to navigate the topic of mathematics.

9.45 Film: The Help. (2011) An aspiring journalist returns to her Mississippi home in the 1960s and begins documenting the lives of black servants working for wealthy white families. Her project brings the community's household staff together, but creates controversy among their employers. Drama based on Kathryn Stockett's novel, starring Emma Stone, Viola Davis, Bryce Dallas Howard and an Oscar-winning Octavia Spencer.

12.05 Film: The Painted Veil. (2006) An English doctor in 1920s China takes his unfaithful wife on a dangerous journey to a remote village ravaged by disease. Period drama based on W Somerset Maugham's novel, starring Edward Norton, Naomi Watts. **2.00** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Bottom Knocker Street. **6.10** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.25** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.50** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **7.00** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.05** Oddbods. (R) **7.10** Sooty. (R) **7.25** Super 4. (R) **7.40** Adventure Time. **8.00** Marvel Avengers Assemble. **8.30** Thunderbirds Are Go. **9.00** Jessie. **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **10.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **11.25** ITV News; Weather. **11.40** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **12.40** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **1.45** Judge Rinder. (R) **2.45** Doc Martin. (R) **3.45 Film:** Field of Dreams. (1989) Baseball fantasy, with Kevin Costner and Ray Liotta. **5.45** Regional Programme ; Weather.

6.00 ITV News; Weather.

6.15 Catchphrase.

7.00 The Chase: Celebrity Special. Heptathlete Louise Hazel, comedian Joel Dommett, 1980s music star Sinitta and actor Les Dennis team up to take part in the quiz show, in which they must answer general knowledge questions against the clock and race down the game board to the exit – all without being caught out by the "quiz genius" Chaser. Presented by Bradley Walsh.

8.00 The X Factor. Caroline Flack and Olly Murs present as the remaining would-be stars face their fourth live show. With casualties already having occured in Cheryl Fernandez-Versini's Groups and Simon Cowell's Overs, the pressure is continuing to increase for the contestants, who once again take to the stage to perform in front of the judges and the viewing public. Tomorrow's show will see yet another act eliminated following a tense sing-off.

9.40 I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here! Ant and Dec catch up with the stranded stars following their first six days in the camp, discovering whether any of them are starting to struggle with the pressures of jungle life.

10.40 The Jonathan Ross Show. One Direction join Jonathan in the studio to perform two songs and speak about their "extended hiatus" in 2016.

11.45 ITV News; Weather.

12.00 Piers Morgan's Life Stories: Peter Andre. (R) **12.55** Jackpot247. **3.00** Show Me the Telly. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.15 How I Met Your Mother. (R) **6.40** How I Met Your Mother. (R) **7.05** Mourne Skyline 2015. **7.30** The Grid. **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.25** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.00** The Morning Line. **10.00** Frasier. (R) **10.30** Frasier. (R) **11.00** The Big Bang Theory. **11.30** The Big Bang Theory. **11.55** The Big Bang Theory. **12.25** The Simpsons. (R) **1.00** The Simpsons. (R) **1.30** Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Haydock Park and Ascot. **4.00** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.25** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.00** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.25** Come Dine with Me. (R)

6.00 Come Dine with Me. (R)

6.30 Channel 4 News.

7.00 The World's Weirdest Weather. New series. More unusual natural phenomena, including freak hailstorms in the desert, deadly "rain bombs", underwater volcanoes that affect the weather on the surface, lakes that it is possible to walk across, and a forest of rain-carved rock. Previously seen on More4.

8.00 Grand Designs: House of the Year. Kevin McCloud reveals five more candidates vying to be crowned Riba House of the Year 2015, including a luxurious city home complete with a basement swimming pool, a concrete an brick open-plan house in Liverpool, and a geometric homestead in Northern Ireland. Plus, a Hollywood-inspired pad in north London, and a modernist villa in north Wales. (R)

9.00 Film: Red 2. (2013) Premiere. Former CIA agent Frank Moses reunites his squad of retired operatives for a vital mission. A devastatingly powerful new weapon has been stolen, and it falls to Frank's team to retrieve it – which means facing lethal assassins, terrorists and corrupt government officials out to steal the device. Action thriller sequel, starring Bruce Willis, Helen Mirren and John Malkovich.

11.20 TFI Friday. Chris Evans hosts the lively entertainment show mixing music and chat with stunts and skits, with guests including Stereophonics, Mark Ronson, ELO and Hozier. (R)

12.20 Jimmy Carr: Being Funny. (R) **1.15** Alan Carr: Chatty Man. (R) **2.10** Fargo. (R) **3.10** Hollyoaks. (R) **5.15** Hugh's 3 Good Things: Best Bites. (R) **5.25** Deal or No Deal. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **8.55** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. **9.30** The Saturday Show. **11.30 Film:** My Santa. (2013) **1.10 Film:** Snowed in at Rosemont. (2015) Premiere. Drama, starring Ayla Kell. **3.00 Film:** Christmas Mail. (2010) Comedy, starring Ashley Scott. **4.50 Film:** Naughty or Nice. (2012) Premiere. Festive fantasy, starring Hilarie Burton.

6.30 5 News Weekend.

6.35 Funniest Fails, Falls & Flops. Comedy clip show featuring pranks gone wrong, unwise acts and failed attempts of misplaced ambition. (R)

7.00 Police Interceptors. Justin Moffitt and Paul Faulkner chase down a gang of suspected car thieves, while it takes seven officers to stop a violent thief who tries to sink his teeth into them. (R)

8.00 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. Agents Stewart McCracken and Elmore Victor head to Liverpool for what they expect to be a routine repossession, but instead face the most challenging eviction of their careers. Behind the front door, they find a critically ill two-year-old child with major heart problems, who is on constant life support and unable to breathe without a ventilator. Meanwhile, Brian O'Shaughnessy and Del Anglin chase £2,000 worth of debt owed by a business based in Kent, and recover £4,000 from a recycling business in Buckinghamshire. (R)

9.00 Football League Tonight. Kelly Cates and George Riley present extended highlights of the weekend's top matches, In the Championship, Leeds United hosted manager Steve Evans' former club Rotherham United and Middlesbrough took on Queens Park Rangers at the Riverside Stadium. Plus, a round-up of the action from Leagues One and Two, discussion on the main talking points, and interviews with a selection of players and managers.

10.25 Greatest Christmas TV Moments. Countdown of 50 festive TV highlights, featuring Gavin & Stacey, Morecambe and Wise, Only Fools and Horses, Wallace and Gromit, Doctor Who, Top of the Pops and The Royle Family. (R)

1.10 SuperCasino. **3.10** BAMMA: Night of Champions. **5.00** Chinese Food in Minutes. (R) **5.15** Make It Big. (R) **5.45** Angels of Jarm. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Don't Tell the Bride **8.00** Top Gear **9.00** Russell Howard's Good News **9.30 Film:** Kidulthood (2005) **11.00** Family Guy **1.15** Russell Howard's Good News **1.45** Josh **2.15** Rent a Cop **2.45** Footballers, Sex, Money: What's Gone Wrong? **3.45** Great Movie Mistakes V: Revenge of the Fifth **4.00** Close

BBC Four
7.00 Lost Land of the Tiger **8.00** Roman Britain: A Timewatch Guide **9.00** The Bridge **11.00** Catching History's Criminals: The Forensics Story **12.00** Kings of Rock 'n' Roll **1.00** Totally British: 70s Rock 'n' Roll **3.00** Lost Land of the Tiger **4.00** Close

ITV2
11.00 I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here! **12.30** The Xtra Factor **1.30** Scorpion **2.25** Totally You've Been Framed! **3.25** Catchphrase **4.05** I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here! **5.35 Film:** Miss Congeniality 2: Armed and Fabulous (2005) **7.55 Film:** Hulk (2003) **10.40** I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here Now! **11.40** The Keith Lemon Sketch Show **12.40** Viral Tap **1.25** Crazy Beaches **1.50** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.15** Animal Practice **2.40** Teleshopping **5.40** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3
2.55 Film: Columbo: Forgotten Lady (1975) **4.55** Midsomer Murders **6.55** Doc Martin **8.00** Midsomer Murders **10.00** Lewis **12.05** A Touch of Frost **2.10** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

ITV4
12.45 Live World Series of Darts Finals. **5.00** Storage Wars: Texas **6.00** Fifth Gear **7.00** Live World Series of Darts Finals. **11.00 Film:** How I Spent My Summer Vacation (2012) **12.55 Film:** Unleashed (2005) **2.50** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping

E4
11.00 Made in Chelsea **12.00** Couples Come Dine with Me **2.00** Melissa & Joey **3.00** The Goldbergs **4.00 Film:** Diary of a Wimpy Kid (2010) **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **9.00 Film:** The Woman in Black (2012) **11.00** Gogglebox **1.05** The Inbetweeners **2.10** The IT Crowd **3.00** Drifters **3.25** How I Met Your Mother **4.10** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **4.35** Revenge **5.20** Rules of Engagement

Film4
11.00 Bend of the River (1952) **1.00** Toys (1992) **3.20** Princess Mononoke (2001) **6.05** Independence Day (1996) **9.00** X-Men: First Class (2011) **11.35** Byzantium (2012) **1.50** Sightseers (2012) **3.40** Close

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Sandwell Chronicle Thursday, November 19, 2015

CHOICE

Simon Reeve

Ireland with Simon Reeve (BBC2, 8pm)
The adventurer returns with a new two-parter exploring the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland. Both form one of the world's most beautiful islands in the world: a region steeped in history, culture and belief, but one with a complex and troubled past. The first stop is County Wexford where Simon examines the start of the long, turbulent relationship between Britain and Ireland. He also takes a paramotor flight up along the coast, then heads to Cork where he joins the thousands who make the exhausting climb up the sacred mountain of Croagh Patrick. Then it's off to the surf town of Lahinch before heading to Northern Ireland, where he visits Crom Castle and moves on to the city of Londonderry.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.25** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** Sunday Morning Live. **11.00** Regional Programme. **12.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** Sophia: Suffragette Princess. **1.45** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **2.30** Escape to the Country. (R) **3.15** Regional Programme. **4.15** Songs of Praise. **4.50** The Hunt. (R) **5.50** BBC News.

6.10 Regional Programme.

6.15 Countryfile. The shows comes from Dorset, where Ellie Harrison meets the members of a very special countrymen's club and goes looking for kingfishers at an urban bird reserve in Weymouth. Matt Baker visits a woodland architecture school, where local trees are used as building materials, Jules Hudson drops in to a historic family butcher's, Adam Henson takes stock on the farm, and Tom Heap weighs up the pros and cons of dredging Britain's ports. Including Weather For The Week Ahead.

7.15 Strictly Come Dancing: The Results. Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman present last night's results from the Blackpool Tower Ballroom.

8.00 Antiques Roadshow. Fiona Bruce presents a show from Walmer Castle in Kent, where the team values a jacket worn by President Kennedy that could be one of the most valuable items on the series.

9.00 The Hunt. The hunting methods of aquatic predators, who often have to travel vast distances in search of food. Featuring footage of blue whales, frigate birds, sharks and spinner dolphins.

10.00 BBC News.

10.20 Regional Programme.

10.30 Match of the Day 2. Tottenham Hotspur v West Ham United. Mark Chapman presents action from the Premier League clash between the London rivals at White Hart Lane.

11.15 Citizen Khan. Shazia and Amjad find it hard to cope as their baby is struggling to sleep during the night. (R)

11.45 The Graham Norton Show. Tom Hanks talks about his role in new Spielberg thriller Bridge of Spies. Plus, banter with comedian David Walliams and Doctor Who star Peter Capaldi. (R)

12.30 Weather for the Week Ahead.
12.35 BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 The A to Z of TV Gardening. (R) **6.45** The Big Allotment Challenge. (R) **7.45** Countryfile. (R) **8.45** An Island Parish: Falklands. (R) **9.15** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **10.45** My Life on a Plate. (R) **11.30** Len and Ainsley's Big Food Adventure. (R) **12.15** MOTD2 Extra. **1.00** Len and Ainsley's Big Food Adventure. (R) **1.45 Film:** Cimarron. (1960) **4.10** Flog It! (R) **5.00** Demolition: The Wrecking Crew. (R)

6.00 Live Tennis: ATP World Tour Finals. Coverage of the singles final of the season-ending competition from the O2 in London, where Novak Djokovic has been victorious for the last three years.

7.00 Robert Peston Goes Shopping. The BBC News business editor examines the shopping boom of the late 1990s and early 2000s, which was fuelled by cheap credit and a buoyant economy. (R)

8.00 Ireland with Simon Reeve. Two-part programme exploring the history of both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland. In the first episode, Simon tries to climb the sacred mountain of Croagh Patrick.

9.00 The Secret History of the British Garden. Monty Don visits Croome Castle, Worcestershire, as he turns his attention to the 18th century, when the first landscape gardens were created and a revolution in gardening occurred.

10.00 Family Guy. Lois books a couple's vacation, but it turns out to be a marriage counselling programme, while Carter is frustrated because the kids are so into their electronics. Last in the series.

10.20 Family Guy. Peter and his friends try to save the Drunken Clam when the bar's owner dies. Meanwhile, Meg gets a job at a funeral home.

10.45 Family Guy. The Griffins move to a farm after they are robbed. When the family begins to struggle financially, Peter starts an illicit drug business.

11.05 Film: All Good Things. (2010) The heir of a wealthy family marries a medical student, but is suspected of murdering her when she disappears without trace. Crime drama, starring Ryan Gosling, Kirsten Dunst, Frank Langella and Kristen Wiig.

12.40 Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) **1.35** Holby City. (R) **2.35** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Bottom Knocker Street. **6.10** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.25** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.50** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **7.00** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.05** Oddbods. (R) **7.10** Sooty. (R) **7.25** Super 4. (R) **7.40** Matt Hatter Chronicles. **8.00** Marvel Avengers Assemble. **8.30** Fish Hooks. **8.45** Fish Hooks. **9.00** Jessie. **9.25** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **10.20** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **11.20** ITV News; Weather. **11.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **12.30** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **1.35** The Chase. (R) **2.30** The X Factor. (R) **4.15 Film:** The Mummy. (1999) Fantasy action adventure, starring Brendan Fraser.

6.30 Regional Programme; Weather.

6.45 ITV News; Weather.

7.00 Jekyll and Hyde. Robert discovers he has some distant relations, so he and Max travel to the remote village where they live in the hope they will be able to tell him more about the Jekyll curse. On their arrival, they discover several mysterious deaths have occurred recently and the locals believe a legendary demonic dog is responsible. Amelia Bullmore guest stars.

8.00 The X Factor. Caroline Flack and Olly Murs present the results of last night's live show, revealing which acts are safely through to the next round. The two lowest scoring contestants compete in a sing-off in front of judges Nick Grimshaw, Rita Ora, Cheryl Fernandez-Versini and Simon Cowell to decide who gets to stay in the competition and who gets eliminated.

9.00 I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here! Ant and Dec present the celebrity survival challenge, as the famous faces continue their ordeal in the Australian jungle, struggling to complete the tough daily tasks. As the first week draws to a close, a contestant is chosen to face the latest Bushtucker Trial.

10.05 ITV News; Weather.

10.20 Film: Captain Corelli's Mandolin. (2001) A soldier in the Italian invasion force controlling the Greek island of Kefalonia falls for a local girl. Second World War romantic drama, starring Nicolas Cage and Penelope Cruz.

12.40 Jackpot247. **3.00** Motorsport UK. **3.50** ITV Nightscreen. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.15 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **6.40** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.05** Chasing Perfection. **8.00** Frasier. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** The Simpsons. (R) **12.55** The Simpsons. (R) **1.25 Film:** Inkheart. (2008) Fantasy adventure, starring Brendan Fraser. **3.30 Film:** Rio. (2011) Animated comedy, with the voice of Jesse Eisenberg. **5.30** Channel 4 News.

6.00 Small Animal Hospital. John Barrowman checks up on a poodle with a life-threatening joint condition, a collie having eye surgery, and a cat that needs a radioactive injection for a hormonal illness.

7.00 Restoring Britain's Landmarks. Following the final push to complete the restoration of St Edward's Presbytery in Ramsgate, which was designed by architect Augustus Pugin. Elsewhere, Alastair Dick-Cleland visits an unusual Martello tower at Aldeburgh in Suffolk that is battling to stay afloat, and Anna Keay explores Appleton Water Tower in Sandringham Park, investigating its role in disease and death on the Royal Estate. Last in the series. (R)

8.00 Building Hitler's Supergun: The Plot to Destroy London. Hugh Hunt examines how the Nazis built the largest cannon in history during the Second World War, a 25-barrelled artillery piece built into a French hillside. He performs a series of experiments to determine how the weapon worked and whether it could have fulfilled its intended purpose – destroying London in its entirety. He also examines plans by the Allies to destroy it, including drone bombers and earthquake-causing weapons.

9.00 Homeland. Saul opens up to Allison, and Carrie is reunited with some old friends.

10.00 Gogglebox. Capturing the households' instant reactions to what they are watching on TV from the comfort of their own sofas. (R)

11.05 Film: Welcome to the Punch. (2013) Crime thriller, starring James McAvoy and Mark Strong.

12.55 Grand Designs Australia. **1.50** Obsessive Compulsive Cleaners. (R) **2.50** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.40** Food Unwrapped. (R) **5.05** Location, Location, Location. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **6.20** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **6.30** Bob the Builder. (R) **6.45** Tickety Toc. (R) **6.55** Zack and Quack. (R) **7.05** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.20** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.30** Little Princess. (R) **7.45** Pip Ahoy! (R) **7.55** Blaze and the Monster Machines. **8.20** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **8.40** Wanda and the Alien. (R) **8.55** Toby's Travelling Circus. (R) **9.10** Jelly Jamm. (R) **9.25** LazyTown. (R) **9.55** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. **10.30** Football League Tonight. (R) **12.00** Street Crime UK: Caught on Camera. (R) **12.30 Film:** Christmas with the Kranks. (2004) Festive comedy, starring Jamie Lee Curtis and Tim Allen. **2.20 Film:** Matchmaker Santa. (2012) Romantic comedy, with Lacey Chabert and Adam Mayfield. **4.00 Film:** Mrs Miracle. (2009) Family drama, starring Doris Roberts. **5.50 Film:** Annie Claus Is Coming to Town. (2011) Christmas fantasy, starring Maria Thayer.

7.35 5 News Weekend.

7.40 Funniest Fails, Falls & Flops. Comedy clip show featuring pranks gone wrong, unwise acts and failed attempts of misplaced ambition.

8.10 Impractical Jokers US. The guys work in a fast food restaurant and a supermarket, and are challenged to say inappropriate things to the customers. They also have to persuade members of the public to sign a ridiculous petition and have to clean up after dogs in the park.

8.35 Impractical Jokers US. The guys act as fortune tellers at a boardwalk, and try to impress women.

9.00 Film: Angels & Demons. (2009) Academic adventurer Robert Langdon is called in by the Vatican to deal with a crisis. The Pope has died and the four cardinals in line to be his successor have all been abducted by a mysterious sect that is threatening to murder them. As he searches for the kidnapped clerics, Langdon discovers the cult has an even more horrific plan in mind. Thriller sequel to The Da Vinci Code, with Tom Hanks and Ewan McGregor.

11.45 Film: Stargate. (1994) Sci-fi adventure, starring Kurt Russell and James Spader.

1.50 SuperCasino. **3.10** Eamonn & Ruth: How the Other Half Lives. (R) **4.00** House Doctor. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **5.45** Angels of Jarm. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Live Tennis: ATP World Tour Finals. **9.00** Russell Howard's Good News **10.00** Comedy Fest Live 2013 **11.05** Family Guy **11.50** American Dad! **12.10** Family Guy **12.30** Josh **1.00** Rent a Cop **1.30** The Fear **2.00** Saving the Cyber Sex Girls: Stacey Dooley Investigates **3.00** Russell Howard's Good News **4.00** Close

BBC Four
7.00 Timeshift: How Britain Won the Space Race – The Story of Bernard Lovell and Jodrell Bank **8.00** Nigel Slater's Icing on the Cake **9.00** Arena: Night and Day **10.30 Film:** West (2014) **12.05** Operation Crossbow **1.05** Secrets of the Universe: Great Scientists in Their Own Words **2.05** Ceramics: How They Work

ITV2
11.20 The X Factor **1.05** I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here! **2.10 Film:** A Cinderella Story (2004) **4.05 Film:** Happy Feet (2006) **6.15** I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here! **7.15 Film:** Liar Liar (1997) **9.00** The Xtra Factor **10.05** I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here Now! **11.05** Plebs **12.05** Viral Tap **12.50** Reality Bites **1.30** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **1.55** Animal Practice **2.15** Teleshopping **5.45** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3
12.40 Film: Columbo: Forgotten Lady (1975) **2.50** Agatha Christie's Marple **4.55** Midsomer Murders **6.50** Sunday Night at the Palladium **7.55** Wycliffe **9.00** Lewis **11.00** Inspector Morse **1.10 Film:** Death Becomes Her (1992) **2.50** On the Buses **3.15** ITV3 Nightscreen

ITV4
12.45 Live World Series of Darts Finals. **5.00** Storage Wars: New York **5.55** River Monsters **7.00** Live World Series of Darts Finals. **11.00** Being Kevin Pietersen **12.00** Keane and Vieira: Best of Enemies **1.20** The Big Fish Off **2.20** Tommy Cooper **2.50** ITV4 Nightscreen

E4
12.30 Film: Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel (2009) **2.20** Couples Come Dine with Me **4.20** The Big Bang Theory **6.15 Film:** The Karate Kid (2010) **9.00** The Big Bang Theory **10.00** The Inbetweeners **11.00** The IT Crowd **12.00 Film:** Underworld: Rise of the Lycans (2009) **1.55** Rules of Engagement **2.50** The New Normal **3.15** Hollyoaks

Film4
11.00 From Up on Poppy Hill (2011) **1.00** Dear John (2010) **3.05** Meet Dave (2008) **5.00** ParaNorman (2012) **6.50** Congo (1995) **9.00** Life of Pi (2012) **11.25** Adrift (2006) **1.15** Adaptation (2002) **3.35** Close

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FILM CHOICES

MONDAY

The Christmas Pageant, Channel 5, 3.15pm
A temperamental Broadway director takes over a small-town Christmas show, and renews her relationship with her ex-fiance. Romantic comedy, with Melissa Gilbert and Robert Mailhouse. (2011)

TUESDAY

Road to Christmas, Channel 5, 3.15pm
A woman hitch-hiking to her wedding has second thoughts after becoming attracted to a man who gives her a lift. Romantic comedy drama, starring Jennifer Grey and Clark Gregg. Edited for language. (2006)

WEDNESDAY

Shine, BBC1, 11.35pm
Biopic of David Helfgott, the talented but fragile Australian pianist overwhelmed by the pressure of his father's obsession with success. With Geoffrey Rush and Armin Mueller-Stahl. (1996)

The Perks of Being a Wallflower, Channel 4, 12.35am
An introverted 15-year-old fails to fit in at a 1990s high school as he copes with personal traumas and his own social awkwardness. Drama based on director Stephen Chbosky's novel, starring Logan Lerman, Emma Watson and Ezra Miller. (2012)

The Perks of Being a Wallflower, Wednesday, Channel 4, 12.35am

THURSDAY

Mrs Miracle, Channel 5, 3.10pm
A widowed pianist finds it difficult to raise his six-year-old twin sons alone and also maintain his love of music. However, by hiring a very resourceful housekeeper, he manages to turn his life around. Family drama, starring Doris Roberts. (2009)

FRIDAY

Moon, BBC2, 11.35pm
Astronaut Sam Bell has been working alone at an energy-generating base on the moon for three years and desperately longs to return home. After he is injured in an accident, he begins to discover the disturbing truth about the operation he is running, and is forced to question his own identity. Sci-fi drama, starring Sam Rockwell, with the voice of Kevin Spacey. (2009)

An affluent London street is targeted

What is the mark of a quality drama these days? A thought-provoking plot is obviously important. Great acting is pretty crucial too. Plus, the screenplay should be by an inventive writer who knows how to grip an audience.

Thankfully, new, three-part series Capital ticks all those boxes and then some.

"Through drama, Capital captures the modern Britain that I'm passionate about bringing to the channel," says Charlotte Moore, controller of BBC One. "Peter Bowker's page-turning script shines a light on the comings and goings of one London Street and cleverly interweaves a vibrant set of characters who we soon realise know very little about their neighbours."

Bowker is one of British TV's premier scribes having penned the scripts for Blackpool, Occupation, Desperate Romantics, Eric and Ernie, From There to Here and Marvellous.

Capital reunites him with the star of the latter, Toby Jones, an actor who can seemingly turn his hand to anything, from horror in The Berbarian Sound Studio to comedy with Detectorists.

"Obviously I am thrilled to be part of such a fantastic, diverse and talented cast, and also I'm excited to renew my working relationship with Pete Bowker," remarks Jones.

He'll be joined in the drama by his Dectorists colleague Rachael Stirling, as well as Lesley Sharp, Bryan Dick, Adeel Akhtar (recently seen in the BBC's excellent River) and Gemma Jones (last spotted in ITV's Unforgotten, but who also played Jones' mother in Marvellous).

"It is wonderful to see such a stellar cast starring in Capital," claims executive producer Lucy Richler. "They are sure to bring Peter Bowker's stunning scripts to life in their portrayal of such funny, true and brilliant characters. The wealth of talent involved both on- and off-screen will cement Capital as a truly special drama for BBC One."

Bowker has more often than not originated stories himself, but this time he's adapted the tale from a novel by John Lanchester, who can't wait to see the fruits of his labours: "It's going to be very exciting and very strange," he remarked when the drama was announced.

The premise is certainly intriguing. Set on Pepys Road in South London, it focuses on a group of residents who seem to have it all – or at least own properties worth millions thanks to rocketing house prices.

Among them is Roger, a banker hoping a forthcoming bonus will bring him and his spendthrift wife closer together while enabling them to pay off some debts, and local shopkeeper Ahmed, whose irresponsible brothers are the bane of his life.

Also living nearby is Petunia, an OAP in ill health who has lived in the street her whole life but must now contemplate leaving the house in which she was born, and asylum seeker Quentina, who receives nothing but abuse from its residents – she's a traffic warden.

One morning, each of them receives an anonymous message stating 'we want what you have'. But who sent it, and why are they targeting this street?

Toby Jones stars in Capital, Tuesday, BBC1, 9pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY

Tomorrow's Food
BBC1, 9pm
Over the past decade, Dara O Briain has proved himself to be one of TV's most valuable players, partly because he can break down scientific fact into bite-sized chunks. And on the subject of eating, this new series should also ensure we never look at our snacks and meals in the same way again. Dara and a team of experts take a closer look at state-of-the-art technologies which are revolutionising the way food is grown, bought and eaten around the globe. In episode one, our host is Kent-bound and visits hi-tech greenhouse farm Thanet Earth where they grow a huge quantity of fruit and veg throughout the year without any soil.

London Spy
BBC2, 9pm
During a brutal interrogation, the police accuse Danny of being responsible for Alex's death and he realises he is being framed as he is confronted with an increasing amount of incriminating evidence. He is then knocked sideways by a devastating revelation and turns to the only person who can help him – Scottie. The pair plunge into the world of Westminster politics and end up in a situation that threatens to swallow them both. .

TUESDAY

CATASTROPHE
Channel 4, 10pm
Sharon convinces Rob that now is a good time to return to teaching. However, when she finally secures a meeting with the Head Mistress, the conversation soon becomes a damburst of emotion for Sharon. Over at Rob's office, matters have become awkward around Olivia since he turned down her indecent proposal.

WEDNESDAY

THE APPRENTICE
BBC1, 9pm
The contestants are summoned to the Museum of Childhood, where Lord Sugar instructs them to become party planners – surely an odd challenge for entrepreneurs to master, but it's all part of the game, it seems. The teams have two days to set up and host a children's party for some high spending clients, giving them the challenge of keeping an eye on profits and dealing with demanding customers. For one team, a massive oversight threatens the success of the task. On the other team, the entrepreneurs' efforts miss the mark with a lacklustre assault course, and a blunder with the party gifts.

Peep Show
Channel 4, 10pm
As Jeremy's love life takes a surprising turn, Mark deals with his own matters of the heart. A girl he has had a crush on since university is launching her new book, so he seizes the opportunity to see her, telling himself it is endurance, not stalking. He invents a fictitious dinner party to get her into the flat, but things do not look good when she calls to ask if she can bring her husband.

Peep Show, Wednesday, Channel 4, 10pm

THURSDAY

BEN FOGLE: NEW LIVES IN THE UK
Channel 5, 9pm
Ben meets 40-year-old Amanda Owen from Huddersfield, who left behind a comfortable existence to pursue her lifelong dream of becoming a hill shepherdess. Despite having no background in farming, she now lives at a 2,000-acre farm in the Yorkshire Dales with husband Clive and their eight children. Ben is given a taste of life as a hill shepherd, learns the highs and lows of farming life and finds out how she copes looking after such a huge family as well as her 1,000 native Swaledale sheep.

FRIDAY

UNREPORTED WORLD
Channel 4, 7.30pm
This latest series of hard-hitting documentaries bows out with reporter Seyi Rhodes and director Mike Healy travelling to Brazil to meet some of the nation's newest celebrities – child preachers who attract large crowds of people who believe the youngsters are in direct contact with God and that some can even perform miracles and cure the sick.

Gino's Italian Escape – Islands in the Sun
ITV, 8pm
On Sardinia, chef Gino D'Acampo takes a fishing trip and learns how fishing in the deep blue waters runs a close run second in importance to farming on the island. He then visits the bustling capital city of Cagliari, where he is introduced to the unique textures that the locals use to enhance their fish dishes.

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Sandwell Chronicle Thursday, November 19, 2015

BRAIN GYM No.352

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.

	22		16		19	4	15	18	1	15	24	3
26	10	10	18			23		25		24		10
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LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
K	W	F	N	U	S	V	I	X	Y	R	H	Z
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Q	G	O	L	E	P	A	T	B	C	D	M	J

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

Cryptic Clues:

Across

1. Displace labourer doing duty at different times (5,6)
9. A close shave for brother's capital (7)
10 & 21Dn. Like thinkers (5,5)
11 & 22Ac. Position for a bronze (5,5)
12. Taken by coach (7)
13. Commanding officer returns with unfinished oath, as it happens (6)
15. I want a change from Formosa (6)
18. Company gets clear arrangement for this vessel (7)
20. Therefore music partly features a classical figure (5)
22. See 11 Across
23. Maybe I can hit the bottle from Italy! (7)
24. Brutality shown by rows among quadrupeds (11)

Down

2. Method of communication in British India (5)
3. One of the first members to come to grief (7)
4. Reconstruct the war memorial for the dead (6)
5. Correct prerogative (5)
6 & 17Dn. This is used to put the pupil under heavier lashes! (7,6)
7. An aid for one engaged in heart-searching (11)
8. Not a vessel used for educational cruise! (11)
14. Anxiety about horse slaughter (7)
16. Level accusation against a sovereign term, by the sound of it (7)
17. See 6 Down
19. They are employed on vessels for a sea-trip, one hears (5)
21. See 10 Across

	1	2		3		4		5		6		
7												8
9								10				
11						12						
13		14					15	16				
						17						
18				19				20		21		
22						23						
	24											

Quick Clues:

Across

1. Not easily described (11)
9. Voter (7)
10. Power (5)
11. Ledge (5)
12. Gorge (7)
13. Remember (6)
15. Quantity (6)
18. Wind (7)
20. Overturn (5)
22. Sound (5)
23. In brisk time (7)
24. Riches (11)

Down

2. Fat (5)
3. Obedient (7)
4. Sadness (6)
5. Fire-arm (5)
6. Upstart (7)
7. Dimension (11)
8. Poverty (11)
14. Goblet (7)
16. Half-drunk (7)
17. Sermonise (6)
19. Live (5)
21. Symptoms (5)

Sudoku

		8			1			5
4				8		7	3	
9			5					1
		4		9			5	2
5				4				9
2	3		1					
					9			3
3	9	7		1			6	8
6			7		8	5		

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

9	1	2	3	4	6	5	8	7
4	6	5	2	7	8	1	9	3
3	8	7	9	5	1	6	2	4
5	7	1	8	3	9	4	6	2
8	9	3	4	6	2	7	5	1
2	4	6	7	1	5	9	3	8
6	3	9	1	8	7	2	4	5
1	2	8	5	9	4	3	7	6
7	5	4	6	2	3	8	1	9

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Acid test; 5 Toga; 9 Imps; 10 Last year; 11 Issue; 12 Foundry; 13 Loses one's head; 18 Military; 19 Away; 20 Tension; 21 Light; 22 Drew; 23 Renegade. Down: 2 Comes to; 3 Dispute; 4 Staff entrance; 6 Overdue; 7 Arrayed; 8 Stoups; 13 Limited; 14 Silence; 15 Sets in; 16 Hearing; 17 Abashed. QUICK - Across: 1 Gratuity; 5 Dear; 9 Also; 10 Arrogant; 11 Major; 12 Tripper; 13 Head over heels; 18 Arcadian; 19 Pick; 20 Travail; 21 Meant; 22 Nick; 23 Assisted. Down: 2 Release; 3 Two-fold; 4 Turn the tables; 6 Example; 7 Returns; 8 Polish; 13 Hearten; 14 Archaic; 15 Ordeal; 16 Express; 17 License.

Thinking space

Quiz

1. In which magazine were The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes serialised?
2. Which two dams were destroyed by the 'bouncing bombs' of Barnes Wallis?
3. Who wrote the hymn 'Hark, the Herald Angels sing'?
4. Which dynastic family ruled in Brandenberg-Prussia from 1415-1918?
5. What is the largest British prison for women?
6. In which city are The Gorbals?
7. From which country does the cheese Port Salut come?
8. In which year was Popeye created?
9. Who is the Greek equivalent of the Roman sun-god Sol?
10. In what century was the Taj Mahal built?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Two; 2 H.G. Wells; 3 1910; 4 1936-9; 5 September; 6 A fish; 7 A waxy substance produced in the intestines of the sperm whale; 8 Six; 9 Rene Descartes; 10 Buffalo Bill.

Niner: MANIFESTO

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

143498 gives a month,
148457 gives a season,
945562 gives another season.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

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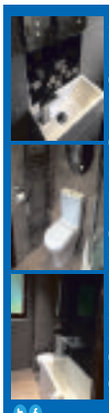

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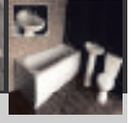

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The 'Advent Calendar' Unit in Queens Square has been transformed into an elves workshop

Festive fun with toys for children's wards

THIS December, the West Bromwich BID is asking for shoppers to buy one extra toy for a child who will spend Christmas in Sandwell Hospital's Children's Ward.

Gifts are to be dropped off at the 'Advent Calendar' Unit in Queens Square at the main entrance off the High Street.

Members of the West Bromwich public are being kindly asked to drop off an extra toy which can be delivered to Sandwell Hospital in time for Christmas. People donating are being asked to label each toy with a suitable age range for the child to whom they are donating to.

Melvin Glasby, chair of the West Bromwich BID said: "We are very excited about our first Christmas charity project this year.

"We're very happy to be working with Sandwell Hospital and asking for donations for children who will be in hospital at this time.

"The West Bromwich BID works closely with corporate and social responsibility projects in the West Bromwich area. We will work with charities all over the BID area for the next five years."

Steve Crump, from Sandwell Hospital said: "Children at Sandwell General Hospital are to benefit from some seasonal cheer, courtesy of the team at the West Bromwich Business Improvement District. Big hearted as always, the team are to build an advent calendar grotto that will add yet more excitement to the Christmas countdown."

For further information, contact John Hodgkiss on 07958524191/john.hodgkiss@westbromwichtown.co.uk

Bringing hope at the tree of light

THIS festive season, help Macmillan and the West Bromwich BID to support people affected by cancer by visiting Macmillan's Tree of Light in West Bromwich Town Centre.

Write a message of love, hope and remembrance to hang on the Tree of Light in exchange for a small donation to Macmillan Cancer Support and ensure no one faces cancer alone this Christmas.

Melvin Glasby, Chair of the West Bromwich Business Improvement District commented: "We are delighted to be able to help Macmillan Cancer Support this Christmas.

"Macmillan is a wonderful charity which helps many people around the country.

"There will be an opportunity to help Macmillan throughout December and we urge local people from all over West Bromwich to support the project."

Some 9,300 people in Sandwell are currently living with or beyond cancer. By 2030, that number will rise to 16,800.

The challenge we face is changing opinions as more people are living with and beyond cancer.

Macmillan Cancer Support is addressing this by offering more services locally that support people beyond medical advice, for example delivering local benefits advice services, cancer self-help group, Macmillan grants and much more.

For further information, contact John Hodgkiss on 07958524191 or email john.hodgkiss@westbromwichtown.co.uk

Thousands of baubles, each with a different message of love help raise funds for the Macmillan Cancer Support service

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- Support and advice for your family?
- Understanding your rights?

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To find out more just give us a call, we are here to help, call us on 0121 569 4914 or visit www.sandwell.gov.uk/familyinfo

Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council

Sandwell Family Information Service

Sandwell Family Information Service

All-star line up is announced

THE West Bromwich Business Improvement District (BID) has pulled out all the stops this Christmas, with a spectacular star-studded switch-on event to kick-start the town's festive proceedings.

Highlights include X-Factor 2013 winner, Sam Bailey performing live on stage before she officially turns on the West Bromwich Lights and 'Britain's Got Talent' dancing sensations, Signature, will be performing their amazing fusion of Michael Jackson and Bhangra style dancing

Melvin Glasby, chair of the West Bromwich BID said: "Christmas is such an important time for our town centre retailers.

"We want to attract as many visitors to West Bromwich as possible this year and will be showcasing the town in its best light, encouraging people from all over the West Midlands to see exactly how much the town has improved recently as a shopping and leisure destination."

Steve Burr, deputy chair of the BID said: "We're confident that visitors to West Bromwich will be more than pleased with our Christmas line-up this year. The lights switch-on kick-starts Thursday late night shopping in the town and there is something for everyone in West Bromwich this Christmas."

There will also be plenty more Christmas treats on offer on Thursday, November 26, along with entertainment throughout December so keep an eye out around the town centre over the coming weeks.

West Bromwich Town Centre is certainly the place to be for Christmas 2015.

X-Factor 2013 winner, Sam Bailey will turn on the lights

West Bromwich BID and Talent Match Sandwell have organised a gift wrapping service in exchage for donations to help fund a group of volunteers travelling to Kenya to help in orphanages and schools

Christmas is all wrapped up with volunteer's help

THE West Bromwich BID (Business Improvement District) in conjunction with young mentees from Talent Match Sandwell, will be providing a Christmas wrapping service to the general public from Monday, December 7 to Saturday, December 12.

Young people will be on site from 9.30pm – 5.30pm fundraising for a team of young people who will volunteer in Kenyan schools and orphanages.

Supported by the Talent Match Mentors, young people will be trained on how to wrap presents 'beautifully' and then a team of volunteer mentors will be working tirelessly to wrap with the minimum donation being £2 per individual.

To support West Bromwich BID in its fundraising activity for toy donations to Sandwell Hospital's children's ward, volunteers will also be wrapping gifts for children who will be in hospital over the Christmas period.

Senior mentor Kelly Cranston said: "We wish to create an opportunity for young people to do something positive for their local community as well as fundraising to undertake activities abroad. We are so pleased to be taking part in BID activities in West Bromwich."

Melvin Glasby, chair of the West Bromwich BID said: "We're delighted to be working with Talent Match this Christmas. It's a great cause and we will be working closely together with our Christmas charity projects this year.

"We will be collecting toys on behalf of Sandwell Hospital's children's ward throughout December, and we'll be working together to make sure they are delivered in time for Christmas."

Donatins can be handed in to the The Christmas Advent Calendar unit, located just off the main entrance (off the High Street) to Queens Square on the left hand side of the mall. For further information concerning the West Bromwich BID and Talent Match, contact John Hodgkiss on 07958524191.

Terrific toys are us at Christmas

FROM film franchises to classic favourites, there is something for every taste here.

With Star Wars Episode 7: The Force Awakens in cinemas soon, there is a galaxy of toys for all ages available.

The Sphero Star Wars BB-8 App-Enabled Droid (RRP £129.99) is a technological marvel, allowing its owner the chance to operate a real tiny robot using a tablet or mobile phone.

It's not cheap but is sure to be at the top of many a list this year.

For Star Wars fans wanting to fork out a lot less money though, the cuddly Chewbacca toy from Build-a-Bear Workshop is just the job.

Is galactic rule your thing? Monopoly: Star Wars Edition is ideal for the Sith in you.

Lego is a mainstay at Christmas. Elsa's Sparkling Ice Castle from Disney's Frozen will be hit no doubt. Fancy yourself as a crackshot? Nerf N-Strike Modulus ECS-10 Blaster is a safe way to prove you have what it takes.

Consoles and the games for them will be popular again this year. Buy your copy of Fifa 2016 now, available on many platforms.

Zoom along on the Razor E100 Electric Scooter. Available in various colours, it won't be long before these become common sight.

Children – and adults – can't get enough of the Minions. Tumbling Stuart will raise a smile or two when the turkey has long gone.

For younger children, Tomy's Jumbo Jamboree and Play All Day Elmo will become firm favourites.

Sphero Star Wars BB-8 App-Enabled Droid (RRP £129.99)

Razor E100 Electric Scooter (RRP £149.99)

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Cabaret king at Baggies venue

CABARET fans are in for a treat when entertainer Joe Longthorne performs a special one-off show at the Black Country town's Woodman Corner venue on Friday, December 4.

Having successfully battled cancer twice, the 60-year-old singer is making a comeback and saying thanks for landlord Steve Flood's support and friendship which developed during his ill health.

The pub is a favourite with Albion fans and even has a Jeff Astle VIP lounge named after The Hawthorns' hero.

Longthorne's visit is a boost for landlord Steve Flood who became friends with the Blackpool-based singer when they met some years ago in the seaside town.

The singer, who battled leukaemia for 20 years until a bone marrow transplant in 2006, was also diagnosed with cancer last year.

However he suffered a relapse in the summer and has been undergoing more intensive treatment.

But the Hull-born former Romany has not forgotten the support and friendship of the West Bromwich publican and will be bringing his show "An Evening With Joe Longthorne," to the Woodman Corner as a thank you.

It is the singer's second visit to the venue. He performed a sell-out show in June after cancelling a concert planned for the previous month because of ill health.

Joe Longthorne is recognised as a fine vocalist and live performer

Steve said: "I first saw Joe perform some years ago and as a showman he is absolutely amazing. I have continued to keep in touch throughout the years and I could not believe it when he agreed to come to the Woodman Corner to do a show.

"He had such a great time when he visited us before he agreed to come back to bring his latest show to the pub as a thank you.

"It will be a packed house and it's a great honour for a local pub to host such a big showbiz name."

Longthorne is now on the mend after a punishing spell of treatment and combining a busy work schedule with some rest and recuperation.

The singer is a regular visitor to the West Midlands. He performed a comeback show at Birmingham's Alexandra Theatre in January and has also performed at Wednesbury Town Hall. He will return to the town hall for a sell-out show the night before his Woodman Corner appearance in December.

Landlord Steve, who also owns the nearby Globe Inn, said: "There are still a few tickets left for the show. But many of the people who came to Joe's earlier performance are returning to see him again."

British turkey triumph

WHEN it comes to cooking turkey, it is actually very straightforward – see the complete guide to timings, carving, defrosting and much more on britishturkey.co.uk

So all you need to do, is mull over which delicious flavourings and garnishes to add to make it the best meal ever. Why not experiment with this Christmas cracker, created by top food blogger Gourmet Mum!

This delicious, juicy roast turkey cooked in a citrus herby butter topped with smoked bacon and sage serves eight to 10 people and takes three hours cooking time and 30 minutes prep.

Add a citrus twist to your traditional Christmas lunch this year

INGREDIENTS:

- 4.5 kg British turkey, fresh or thoroughly defrosted if previously frozen
- Salt and ground black pepper to taste
- 150g softened unsalted butter
- 4 clementines, finely zested and halved
- 2 tablespoons sage leaves, finely chopped
- 3 garlic bulbs, two left whole with outer skin removed, one with two cloves peeled and crushed and remaining cloves bashed in their skins
- 12 rashes of streaky smoked bacon
- Few sprigs of rosemary (optional)

METHOD: Allow the turkey to come to room temperature before cooking. Season it well inside and out with salt and black pepper.

Pre-heat the oven to 180C/160C fan/gas mark 4. Blend the butter with the clementine zest, the two tablespoons of chopped sage and cloves of crushed garlic. Add salt and pepper to taste and blend well again.

Lift the turkey skin away from the meat taking care not to tear it. Push all but two tablespoons of the flavoured butter under the skin, pushing it back as far as possible under the skin towards the neck cavity.

Smooth the skin to create an even layer of herb butter under the skin. Brush the remaining butter all over the outside of the turkey.

Arrange the bacon over the breast of the turkey in a criss-cross formation. Carefully push several sage leaves under the bacon and the turkey, so half the leaf is exposed and half is under the bacon.

Place two clementine halves in the cavity with the remaining sage, bashed garlic cloves and a few rosemary sprigs if using.

Truss the turkey by wrapping string around leg joints, then around the parsons nose, under the bird and up over the wings. Tie securely where the legs cross over.

Weigh the turkey and calculate the cooking time at 20 minutes per kg plus 90 minutes. For a 4.5kg turkey this will be three hours. Put the turkey in a roasting tin along with the remaining clementines and whole garlic bulbs.

Cover the tray tightly with tin-foil making sure there's a slight gap between the turkey and the foil. Place in the pre-heated oven.

After 90 minutes, uncover the turkey and baste it in its juices before re-covering and returning to the oven. If you have a very large turkey you may want to baste a second time during the cooking.

Remove foil for the final 45 minutes of cooking to crisp skin.

To check the turkey is cooked either use a meat thermometer, or, pierce at the thickest part with a skewer. The juices will run clear when it has cooked.

Transfer the turkey to serving plate. Cover with a new layer of foil and a warm damp tea towel. Leave it to rest in a warm place for at least 30 minutes before carving.

Preparing for a transformation

NEXT time you are on Duchess Parade, take a look up. Above the bustling shops and market stalls, there are some very interesting buildings.

If these buildings could speak, they would tell stories about their long history of commerce, enterprise and innovation.

Even though these factors are still very much in force, today some of the buildings stand empty and abandoned. Sadly, like that, they don't inspire anyone.

This is where specialists in empty retail conversion and cover ups – City Dressing – comes in. The aim is dress the building up, and give them a future for generations to come.

By restoring the external façades, new life will be breathed into the buildings, so as to encourage new investors to move in and realise the potential of these unloved places.

So, imagine all the shops in good condition and all the façades cleaned and presentable. With Duchess Parade restored to its former glory, it is possible to start building a better future.

The main two buildings that will start the series of works will be the former YMCA and M&S.

Works will entail the building of a new ground floor façade to cover the existing shop front. A specially designed 3D graphic will then be installed which will depict the exciting future of retail in West Bromwich while looking back to its former glory days.

The area's history will be displayed as a virtual museum that can come alive on phones with music and video just by pointing a smart phone camera at the graphic. The 3D graphic combined with augmented reality is the key to using empty shop fronts and derelict buildings as a community resource, to make them work for the good of community by reinforcing ties and promoting events. The graphics also attract new tenants.

The plan is to use this approach throughout the West Bromwich BID are and the dormant outdoor media is a great way to shout about why West Bromwich is on the up and tell the area's stories of manufacturing, pain a vibrant picture of multiculturalism and convey hope for the future.

The dormant media is not only the empty shop fronts, but the gap sites between buildings, hoardings, banners on lamp columns and temporary lighting, not just at Christmas but throughout the year.

City Dressing has dressed over 2,000 units with 40 per cent of them finding new tenants in six months. The company has also just received the top award for the High Street for its innovative solutions.

Vibrant facades and new graphics are set to replace tired looking frontages

Promoting a new image

THE West Bromwich BID is keen to promote the town's excellent shopping areas, which in turn aims to boost employment, number of visitors and business to the area.

It's important that West Bromwich is presented in a welcoming and safe manner to both local visitors and the exciting new Town Ambassador Service aims to do just that.

GMS Group is proud to have been involved in the formation of this service by managing the selection process through interviews, screening, vetting and essentially employing the two now successfully appointed ambassadors. As locally based experts in customer service, security, screening and vetting, GMS Group were perfectly placed for this task.

Town ambassadors are passionate West Bromwich locals and will be committed to their high profile roles with the BID over the next five years, working to improve tourism and general visitor perceptions and experience of West Bromwich. They will have a visible and consistent presence in the centre, easily recognisable by their red uniforms.

Jerry Lane, operations director at GMS Group said: "We are so pleased to be working with West Bromwich BID on this project; it's been a really interesting process and something a bit different for GMS Group.

The overall aim is to actively provide an enhanced visitor experience and a safe and positive environment to be in which, with the recently selected ambassadors now on board, I'm confident that we will achieve the appropriate service excellence."

If you're interested in the work of GMS Group or would like to find about future employment opportunities call Jerry Lane on 01527 889180.

The youth bus – part of the Safer 6 campaign

Central place for guidance

THE Safer 6 campaign team headed to West Bromwich recently, bringing a host of safety and crime prevention advice for local people.

Organisations work closely together day in, day out, throughout the year to make Sandwell a safer, cleaner place.

Activities and services included a fire visiting engine and police car; chip pan fire demonstration; free bike security marking; Sandwell Crime Prevention Panel Bus – with community safety advice and freebies; Neighbourhood Watch stall; Youth Bus; Eco Bus; Trading Standards; West Bromwich Youth Council; alcohol advice and support from Swanswell; West Bromwich Local.

The six-week campaign is all about targeting their efforts and providing extra reassurance during the darker nights, fireworks and bonfire season – a time when crime and anti-social behaviour can often rise.

Follow the campaign on Twitter using #Safer6

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2. On what telephone number can you cantact Mrs Helen Jolly?

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I have read the rules and agree to abide by them. Signature .....

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Rules: Entrants must be 18 or over. Closing date for entries is 27th November 2015. The winner will be notified by post. The first correct entry opened after the closing date will receive the prize. There is no cash alternative to the prize. The prize will be issued in cheque form made payable to the advertiser as chosen by the winner. Once issued the cheque cannot be altered and must be cashed within two months of receipt. Employees or their immediate relatives of the MNA group of companies may NOT enter. The Editor's decision is final. The winner must be prepared to take part in any publicity.

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HONOURING OUR FALLEN

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Appointments now available for Christmas

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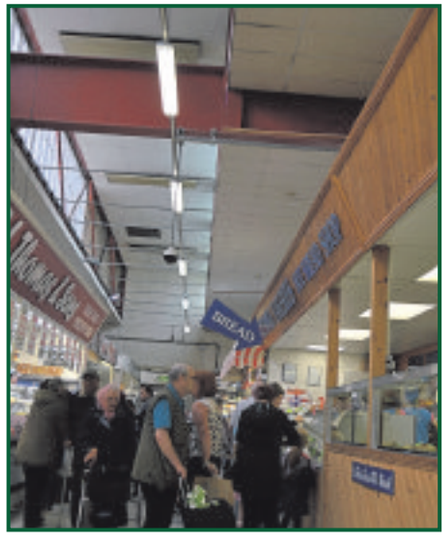
Kings Square Shopping Centre helps out with the festive food bank donations


There are plenty of treasures to find in the markets

Thomas & Sons butchers offers exceptional choice and value

First stop for the Christmas shop

IT'S nearly Christmas and what better time than this to 'Love Your Local Market'?

Across the whole country, markets have held – and continue to hold – a fond place in the hearts of the great British public.

Perhaps it's the sense of history that they exude or maybe they are synonymous with those all too rare traditional market shopping values of quality, service and value.

Or perhaps it's just the excitement of knowing that even in these harsh economic times, it's still possible to find that real bargain. It was once said that no matter what shoppers sought, from a cotton reel to a conger eel, there was a good chance they would find it at a market.

Markets in Sandwell have a royal heritage, dating back to 1709 when a lord of the manor, John Hoo was granted permission to operate a market in Wednesbury by Queen Anne.

Today, Sandwell Council markets service operates markets throughout the borough at West Bromwich (indoor in the Kings Square Shopping Centre, and outdoor in the high street), Wednesbury, Oldbury and Great Bridge, as well as administering and regulating all street trading in the borough.

These markets are at the very heart of our local communities, and are at the forefront of the cuncil's endeavours to revitalise our town centres.

Social

Today our markets are social hubs, and are great places to meet and interact with friends old and new. They are also great places to experience not only some good old fashioned retail therapy, but also a wide variety of entertainment and activities for people of all ages. Face painters, product demonstrators, street entertainers, dance demonstrations, school projects and church groups are among the many and varied organisations that are now benefitting from and utilising the spaces in and around our market sites.

Investment is continuing in the markets.West Bromwich indoor market, or example, will soon benefit from a fantastic new entrance directly into the heart of the Kings Square Shopping Centre.

Of course, our markets would be nothing without its traders. Some have stalls which have been in the family for generations whilst others are new – why not join them? There are some fantastic opportunities and incentives for those wishing to start their own business, just contact the market manager for further details.

And now down to the most important job – a trip to the market to find all those Christmas presents for Great Aunt Hilda.

And when it's all done there's just one thing that all the markets' service would like to say: "We ho ho hope you have a fantastic Christmas and New Year."

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Sandwell Markets
Christmas Trading 2015

New Market Hall,
Kings Square, West Bromwich - Open Monday to Saturday until Christmas (including Christmas Eve) and Sunday 20th December
Re-opens 28th December 2015

West Bromwich High St Market
- Open Monday to Saturday (including Christmas Eve) and Sunday 20th December
Re-opens 28th December 2015

Great Bridge Market,
Town Centre Car Park
Wednesdays and Saturdays

Wednesbury Market,
Adjacent to Morrisons Tuesdays (Bric a Brac),
Fridays/Saturdays (General Goods),
extra day Christmas Eve

Oldbury Market,
Adjacent Sainsbury's
Mondays,Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays
Up to Christmas (including Christmas Eve)
Closed 28th December 2015

All Markets are closed on 25th,26th and 27th December and 1st January 2016.
For details of opening times, contact the Markets Manager on 0121 553 3074

**Extra trading days subject to traders demand*

Traders and Staff would like to wish all customers a Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council

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Any Sandwich, Baguette or Wrap Meal £3.00

Any Panini + Wedges and a Drink* £3.95

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OUT & ABOUT

Christmas & New Year Celebrations AT BENJAMINS

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Friday 11th December
Last 'Share a Party' date
3 course Christmas meal and disco
With Decorations, Crackers, Party Poppers, Balloons + Disco till late Doors open at 7.30pm and the meal starts about 8pm
Only £20 per person* * Plus free entry to the club after

ALL OTHERS SOLD OUT!

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ADULTS £30 CHILDREN (5-10YEARS £15)
CHILDREN UNDER 5 FREE
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Spacious home at leading estate has five bedrooms

SITUATED on the College Fields development, this five-bedroomed detached house in River Walk, Wednesbury is for sale through Connells at offers in excess of £290,000.

It has an entrance hall with tiled flooring and stairs off, a lounge with French doors and laminate flooring, a dining room, WC, a kitchen with a high level double oven, integrated, tiled splash-backs and a door leading to a utility.

On the first floor, bedroom one has an en-suite shower room with splash-back tiling, bedroom two overlooks the rear while bedroom three overlooks the front, and the bathroom has a white suite.

Second floor bedrooms four and five overlook the rear and there is a shower room.

Contact Connells on 0121 5562338 or visit the website www.connells.co.uk

Family home with £154,950 price tag

A MODERN three-storey, three-bedroomed family home on the popular Willenhall Road, Wolverhampton, number 333a is for sale through Butters John Bee at £154,950.

With off-road parking, gas central heating, double glazing and a low maintenance rear garden, with accommodation comprising two en suite double bedrooms and a ground floor bedroom with shower room, lounge with Juliet balcony, kitchen-diner and entrance hall and a conservatory.

For more details, call 01902 710888 or visit www.buttersjohnbee.com

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Willow Avenue, EDGBASTON,

Spacious extended family home; porch, entrance hallway, two reception rooms, fitted kitchen, ground floor shower room, three bedrooms, family bathroom, D/G, C/H, double & single garage, driveway, rear garden. Viewing recommend!

Offers Around £184,950

Hugh Road, SMETHWICK,

Semi detached property comprising, porch, entrance hallway, two reception rooms, kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom with separate WC, D/G, C/H, driveway, front & rear gardens. In need of some improvement. NO ONWARD CHAIN

Offers Around £134,950

Norton Street, BIRMINGHAM,

Well maintained semi detached property comprising, reception room, fitted kitchen, two bedrooms, upstairs bathroom, D/G, C/H, driveway, enclosed rear garden. Ideal Investment opportunity or First Time Purchase. NO ONWARD CHAIN!

Offers Around £109,950

Devon Road, BEARWOOD,

A beautifully presented semi detached property in the WARLEY WOODS area comprising, hallway, two reception rooms, breakfast/kitchen, three bedrooms, family bathroom, D/G and C/H where specified, front and rear gardens, driveway.

Offers Around £239,950

Alwin Road, ROWLEY REGIS,

A three bedroom detached property with NO ONWARD CHAIN, the property briefly comprises: entrance hall, living room, kitchen, conservatory, three bedrooms and bathroom, front and rear gardens, off street parking

Offers Around £155,000

Colman Crescent, OLDBURY,

The property comprises, porch, refitted kitchen, two reception rooms, three bedrooms, refitted family bathroom, double glazed and centrally heated, front and rear gardens, garage. IDEAL FIRST PURCHASE!!!

Offers Around £149,950

Moat Road, OLDBURY,

Extended Family Home; porch, entrance hallway, through lounge, refitted extended kitchen/diner, cloakroom, three double bedrooms, refitted extended family bathroom, well maintained rear garden, driveway, garage. No onward chain.

Offers Around £199,950

ARE YOU LOOKING TO SELL?

CALL NOW FOR YOUR **FREE VALUATION!**

Dawson Street, SMETHWICK,

Impressive Modernised Family Home! Two reception rooms, refitted kitchen, refitted bathroom, three double bedrooms, fitted shower room, double glazed, centrally heated, front & rear gardens. Ideal first time purchase, No Upward

Offers Around £144,950

Brisbane Road, SMETHWICK,

Immaculately refurbished family home comprising, hallway, through lounge, refitted kitchen, three good sized bedrooms, refitted bathroom, well presented rear garden, double glazed and centrally heated. IDEAL FIRST PURCHASE! NO ONWARD

Offers Around £129,950

Sycamore Road, SMETHWICK,

Extended three storey terraced property comprising, two reception rooms, extended kitchen/diner, bathroom with separate toilet, three double bedrooms, front & rear gardens. No onward chain. VIEWING RECOMMENDED!!!

Offers Around £119,950

West Park Road, SMETHWICK,

VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED FOR THIS SEMI DETACHED PROPERTY IN THIS SOUGHT AFTER LOCATION, comprising, porch, hallway, two reception rooms, refitted kitchen/diner, cloakroom, four bedrooms, refitted bathroom with separate shower, double glazing and central heating, driveway, large rear garden. NO ONWARD CHAIN!

Offers Around £265,000

Bellefield Road, WINSON GREEN,

Well presented terraced property in popular location comprising, two reception rooms, extended kitchen, ground floor bathroom, three bedrooms, double glazed and centrally heated. Close to City Hospital and Summerfield School.

Offers Around £110,000

Bertram Road, SMETHWICK,

Well maintained terraced; porch, two reception rooms, fitted kitchen, ground floor bathroom with additional WC, three bedrooms, front & rear gardens, D/G, C/H, Ideal Investment Opportunity or First Time Purchase. No Upward Chain.

Offers Around £109,950

Offices at:
12 Abbey Road, Bearwood, B67 5RD 33-35 Cape Hill, Smethwick, B66 4RX

Find a Property.com DPS rightmove Zoopla

Four-bedroom family detached in quiet close

PLEASANTLY situated in a quiet and established close, this stunning four-bedroomed detached family home in Oxford Drive, off Pargeter Street 'Old Quarter', Stourbridge, has been expensively improved. Built by David Payne Homes, it is for sale through Taylors at £349,950.

It has a reception hall with stairs off; re-appointed cloakroom/WC; attractive sitting room with a bow window; impressive kitchen/diner and dining area with patio doors.

Bedroom one is fitted with furniture and has a stylish, large bathroom en suite; bedroom two has fitted furniture. There are two further bedrooms; main, contemporary shower room; large linen/storage cupboard off the landing.

Outside is a driveway; lawned fore-garden; carport; garage and an enclosed rear garden with a broad balcony of decking; raised and mainly level lawn. Call 01384 395555 or visit www.taylors-estateagents.co.uk

Mews house has canalside setting

IN a canalside setting, this well-presented modern mews house in Parkes Quay, Stourport-on-Severn, is centrally positioned for all facilities, and has moorings available. Beautifully decorated throughout in neutral and tasteful shades, it is for sale through Phipps & Pritchard with McCartneys at £199,950.

On three storeys, its accommodation briefly comprises reception hall with a spindled staircase off; a cloakroom; lounge and re-fitted kitchen with integrated appliances, open plan to the lounge; three bedrooms; shower room/utility room with French doors opening out to the rear courtyard garden and a bathroom with a free-standing bath and half-height panelling to the walls.

Call 01562 822244 or visit www.phippsandpritchard.co.uk

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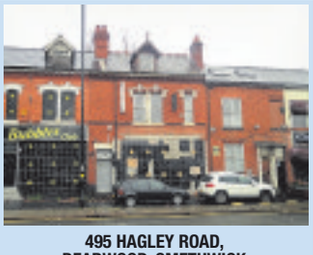
VICTORIA SUITE, WINDMILL LANE, CAPE HILL, SMETHWICK

93 PARGETER ROAD, SMETHWICK

44 BRIDGE ROAD, TIPTON

43 THREE SHIRES OAK ROAD, BEARWOOD, SMETHWICK

3 RUBERY STREET, WEDNESBURY



495 HAGLEY ROAD, BEARWOOD, SMETHWICK

68 BLANDFORD ROAD, QUINTON

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NEW

9 MILTON COURT, BEARWOOD

- First floor flat
- Purpose built modern development exclusive to over 55s
- Double glazed
- Electric storage heating
- Double bedroom
- Landscaped gardens
- Visitors parking

OFFERS BASED ON £55,000

18 CHAPELHOUSE LANE, HALESOWEN

NEW

- Detached bungalow
- Lounge & Kitchen
- Bedroom & Bathroom
- Off-street parking
- Needing upgrading
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON 95,000 - 100,000

NEW

52 THREE SHIRES OAK ROAD, BEARWOOD

- VIEWING ESSENTIAL
- Mid-terraced property
- Close to Warley Woods
- PVC double glazed
- Gas centrally heated
- 2 double bedrooms
- Bathroom with individual shower
- Two reception rooms
- Kitchen/dining room
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £154,950

NEW PRICE

48 WILLIAM ROAD, SMETHWICK

- 3 bedrooms and bathroom to the first floor
- Downstairs shower room,
- Kitchen/breakfast room
- Split level through lounge/dining room
- Verandah, side garage, work store, and carport
- Off-street parking and Neatly laid out garden to the rear
- Being in need of general updating,
- ENERGY RATING : F

OFFERS BASED ON £219,500

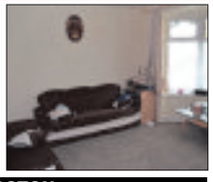
257 THIMBLEMILL ROAD, BEARWOOD

NEW

- 3 bedrooms, Bathroom with electric shower
- Lounge & dining room, Kitchen & utility
- Downstairs cloakroom
- Neatly laid out garden
- Off-street parking
- INSPECTION A MUST
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £139,950

NEW PRICE



207 WILLOW AVENUE, EDGBASTON

- Three bedrooms and bathroom
- Lounge and extended sitting room
- Downstairs shower room
- Garage and garden beyond
- Potential off-street parking to the front
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £184,950

6 SELSEY AVENUE, EDGBASTON

- Refurbished terraced villa
- 2 double bedrooms
- Spacious refitted bathroom
- Two reception rooms
- Refitted kitchen
- Off-street parking
- Inspection to be appreciated
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £129,950

54 TALBOT ROAD, BEARWOOD

NEW

- Ideal FTBs
- Mid-terraced villa
- 3 bedrooms
- Through lounge/ dining room
- Kitchen
- Fully tiled bathroom
- Neatly laid out garden
- ENERGY RATING:D

OFFERS BASED ON £129,950

3 CROSSWELLS ROAD, OLDBURY

- Freehold end terraced
- Double glazed
- 2 double bedrooms
- Lounge & dining room
- Extended kitchen
- Allocated parking
- Detached garage
- Ideal FTBs
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £99,950

4 DOROTHY ROAD, SMETHWICK

- Three Bedrooms and Bathroom with shower
- Well proportioned Lounge, Good size Dining/Kitchen
- Downstairs W.C. and Conservatory
- Mature Gardens
- Ideal For First Time Purchasers
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON 129,950

NOW AVAILABLE

115 HARVEST ROAD, SMETHWICK

- Semi-detached style end town house
- 3 bedrooms and bathroom
- Spacious lounge
- Kitchen/breakfast room
- Verandah
- Downstairs cloakroom
- Off-street parking
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £124,950

75 SABELL ROAD, SMETHWICK

- Gas centrally heated
- PVC double glazed
- 2 double bedrooms
- Two reception rooms
- Fully tiled bathroom
- Ideal FTBs or Investors
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £89,950

91 DURHAM ROAD, ROWLEY REGIS

- Ideal first buy
- Two Bedrooms and Bathroom
- Open Plan Lounge/kitchen
- Off street Parking
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £85,000

29 CARDINAL CLOSE, EDGBASTON

- FIVE bedrooms
- Master en-suite shower
- Additional shower room
- Family bathroom
- Lounge & dining room
- Kitchen/breakfast room
- Ample off-road park
- Detached double garage
- ENERY RATING : F CASH OFFERS ONLY!

OFFERS BASED ON £400,000

23 TREVANIE AVENUE, QUINTON

- 3 bedrooms & bathroom
- Lounge, dining room & kitchen
- Gardens to front and rear
- In need of refurbishment
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £170,000

78 LIGHTWOODS ROAD, BEARWOOD

- Prominent location
- Recently refurbished (2015)
- 2 double bedrooms
- Two reception rooms
- Refitted kitchen & Utility
- INSPECTION A MUST
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £129,950

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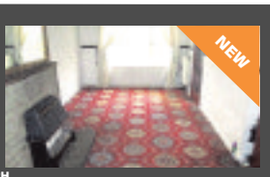

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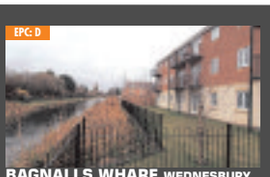
- DOUBLE GLAZING

£79,950

EPC: D



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- CANAL SIDE LOCATION
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- IDEAL FIRST TIME PURCHASE OR INVESTMENT
- ELECTRIC HEATING

£85,950

EPC: D

JOHNSON ROAD WEDNESBURY
- THREE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED
- LOUNGE/DINING ROOM
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- CONDENSING CENTRAL HEATING
- DOUBLE GLAZING
- LARGE REAR GARDEN

£110,000

EPC: TBA

MEMORY LANE WEDNESBURY
- THREE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED
- LOUNGE
- DINING KITCHEN
- NEW CENTRAL HEATING SYSTEM
- GARAGE
- CUL DE SAC LOCATION

£129,950

EPC: D

CHURCHFIELDS WEDNESBURY
- EXTENDED SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
- THREE BEDROOMS
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- LARGE EXTENDED DINING KITCHEN
- DOUBLE GLAZING & CENTRAL HEATING
- GATED PARKING

£134,950

EPC: TBA

SHELTON CLOSE WEDNESBURY
- LINK DETACHED
- THREE BEDROOMS
- EXTENDED KITCHEN
- DOUBLE GLAZED
- CENTRAL HEATING
- GARAGE

£154,950

EPC: F

BRUNSWICK PARK ROAD WEDNESBURY
- EDWARDIAN STYLE DETACHED HOUSE
- THREE BEDROOMS
- LOUNGE AND DINING ROOM
- BREAKFAST ROOM
- RE FITTED SHOWER ROOM
- STORE/SMALL STUDY
- UPSTAIRS NEWLY FITTED HOUSE BATHROOM
- VACANT POSSESSION

£225,000

EPC: D

BROOKSIDE WEDNESBURY
- SUPERBLY PRESENTED APARTMENT
- TWO BEDROOMS
- ELECTRIC HEATING
- DESIGNATED PARKING

£84,950

EPC: D

MEETING STREET WEDNESBURY
- TWO BEDROOM APARTMENT
- EN SUITE TO BEDROOM ONE
- FAMILY BATHROOM
- ALLOCATED PARKING SPACE

£84,995

EPC:C

BEECH CRESCENT WEDNESBURY
- TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS
- SEMI-DETACHED
- CUL-DE-SAC LOCATION
- OFF ROAD PARKING

EPC: D

BASSETT ROAD WEDNESBURY
- EXTENDED END TOWN HOUSE
- THREE DOUBLE BEDROOMS
- LOUNGE/LARGE DINING KITCHEN
- DOUBLE GLAZING & CENTRAL HEATING

£108,000

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OUR STATISTICS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES

N.B. ALL DETAILS BASED ON WEDNESBURY SALES AGENTS AND CORRECT ON RIGHTMOVE AS OF 12th NOVEMBER 2015

EPC: D

DALE STREET WEDNESBURY
- THREE BED SEMI DETACHED
- LOUNGE & DINING KITCHEN
- CUL DE SAC LOCATION
- DOUBLE GLAZING
- CENTRAL HEATING
- OFF ROAD PARKING

£129,995

EPC: TBA

THE FURLONG WEDNESBURY
- THREE BEDROOMS
- SEMI-DETACHED
- CUL-DE-SAC LOCATION
- DINING KITCHEN
- CONSERVATORY
- OFF ROAD PARKING

£134,000

EPC: D

CONSTANTINE WAY BILSTON
- MODERN LINK DETACHED HOME
- LOUNGE
- KITCHEN
- CONSERVATORY
- THREE BEDROOMS
- GARAGE & DRIVEWAY TO FRONT
- PLEASANT REAR GARDEN
- DOUBLE GLAZING (WHERE SPECIFIED)

£169,995

EPC: D

WESTMORE WAY WEDNESBURY
- FIVE BEDROOM DETACHED
- CUL DE SAC LOCATION
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN
- GARAGE
- VACANT POSSESSION

£220,000

Family detached in easy reach of town centre

THIS substantial four-bedroomed detached family house and garden in Rosehill, Willenhall, includes three double bedrooms and a single bedroom/nursery.

With lots of storage space as well, it is for sale through Paul Dubberley at £169,000.

Within easy reach of health care, primary and secondary schools plus public transport routes, the town centre is a convenient short walk away. The flexible layout retains much character and scope for personal improvement.

It has an entrance hallway, dining room, lounge open to the kitchen, utility, downstairs WC, study, bathroom, majority double glazing and central heating, a walled and block paved front garden and a gated rear garden.

For further information contact Paul Dubberley on 01902 633323 or visit www.pauldubberley.co.uk

Extended home has amenities close by

THIS well-presented and extended three-bedroomed detached property in Aberford Close, Willenhall is located close to popular local schools, good local amenities and excellent transport links.

It is for sale through L&S Prestige Estates at £187,5003. It has an entrance porch, an entrance hallway, a spacious lounge with a feature fireplace, a separate dining room, an extended fitted kitchen with integrated appliances, a conservatory, fitted wardrobes to all bedrooms and a family shower room.

The property also benefits from double glazing, gas central heating, a garage, private rear garden and block paved driveway. Call 01902 606595 or visit www.prestige-estatesuk.com

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www.kierliving.co.uk

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Plus an impressive specification is fitted as standard, including appliances. Prices **from only £106,396**^ through **Help to Buy** *(full purchase price £132,995).*

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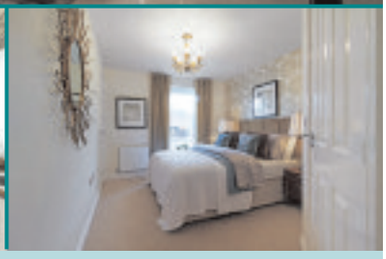

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call: 0845 652 2471**

email: kph.parkviewsales@kier.co.uk

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your home, your location

Photographs of a typical Kier showhome. Elevations and finishes may vary. ^Help to Buy is available upon request subject to terms and conditions. **Calls cost 2p per minute plus your phone company's access charge.

Eden Valley showhome interior

Why rent, when you can buy!

Boost your budget
with the Help to Buy Equity Loan Scheme*

Eden Valley showhome exterior

2 bedroom homes from £124,950 (£99,960 with a Help to Buy Equity Loan*)

With the scheme, the Government lends you up to 20% of the cost of your new build home, so you'll only need a 5% cash deposit and a 75% mortgage to make up the rest

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LOVELL HOMES

Harvills Grange showhome interior

Start 2016 in style!

Homes ready to move in to

Harvills Grange showhome exterior

Make 2016 a year to celebrate with plot 208, the four bedroom Fanceford - from only £235,995 (£188,796 with a Help to Buy Equity Loan*)

Reserve now and you could be spending the festive season in the comfort of brand new Lovell home at Harvills Grange, with as little as 5% deposit with a Help to Buy Equity Loan*

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Help to Buy

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Tel: 0121 514 6811

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LOVELL HOMES

Help to Buy Equity Loan *Move in with just a 5% deposit and 75% mortgage. Those looking to buy with Help to Buy require a 5% deposit as the government will provide up to 20% of the value of the property in an equity loan, allowing buyers to access mortgages of up to the remaining 75%. The equity loan is interest free for the first five years, and can be repaid at any time or when you sell your home. Scheme available on selected properties in England, on homes up to £600,000. Lovell cannot advise you on a mortgage. YOUR HOME MAY BE REPOSSESSED IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON YOUR MORTGAGE OR ANY DEBT SECURED ON IT. Subject to terms and conditions. Please ask for further details. Information correct at time of going to print, 10th November 2015.

Refurbished house has total of three bedrooms

THIS three-bedroomed semi-detached property in Church Vale, West Bromwich has been refurbished.

It is for sale through Bartrams at £204,950 with no chain. With double glazing and central heating, it has a porch, an entrance hall with laminate flooring and storage, reception room one with a bay window to the front, reception room two with a sliding door to the rear, a kitchen with vinyl flooring, gas hob and electric oven, WC, utility, three bedrooms, bathroom, driveway, garage and paved patio area to rear. Call 0121 6019370 or visit www.bartrams.com

Bartrams

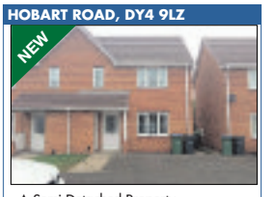
TEL. 0121 601 9370
www.bartrams.com

KENT CLOSE, B71 2SL

- A Mid Terraced Property
- Three bedrooms
- Lounge & Dining Area
- Bathroom & Seperate W.C
- Freehold, EPC RATING C

£124,950

HOBART ROAD, DY4 9LZ



- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Central heating, Double Glazed
- Rear Garden
- Freehold, EPC RATING C

£119,950

RIDDING LANE, WS10 9AA

- A Terraced Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Double Glazed, Central Heating
- Freehold
- EPC RATING D

£119,950

POMMEL CLOSE, WS5 4QE

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Central Heating & Double Glazed
- Driveway, Freehold

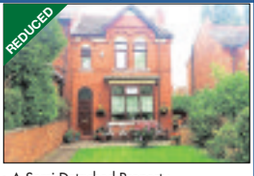
£129,950

BURFORD CLOSE, WS5 4HL

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Double Glazing & Central Heating
- Freehold, No Upward Chain

£132,500

SQUIRES WALK, WS10 9DB



- A Semi Detached Property
- Sought After Location
- Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Garage & Driveway
- Freehold, EPC Rating D

£234,950

CHURCH VALE, B71 4DD

- An Impressive Semi Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Central Heating
- Freehold, EPC RATING E

£299,950

CHURCH VALE, B71 4DJ

- A Refurbished Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Driveway For Four Cars
- Freehold, EPC TBC

£204,950

CHURCH VALE, B71 4DR

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Upstairs Family Bathroom
- Utility/Storage Area, Freehold

£219,950

DURHAM DRIVE, B71 1HS

- A Terraced Property
- Two Bedrooms
- Recently Refurbished
- Central Heating & Double Glazed
- Freehold, EPC TBC

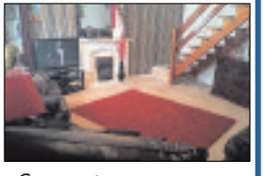
£107,500

HONEYSUCKLE DRIVE, WS5 4RH

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Majority Double Glazing
- Central Heating
- Freehold, EPC RATING D

£209,950

CHARLEMONT ROAD, B71 3HU



- A Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge & Dining Room
- Conservatory
- EPC RATING B
- Freehold

£187,950

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- Situated On Town Centre Outskirts

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HAMPSHIRE ROAD, B71 2PS

- A Semi Detached Property
- Two Bedrooms
- Central Heating & Double Glazed
- Vaccant Possesion
- Freehold, EPC TBC

£109,950

MEADOW AVENUE, B71 3EE

- A First Floor Maisonette
- Two Bedrooms
- Majority Double Glazing
- High Rental Yield
- Leasehold, No Upward Chain

£74,950

SMITHMOOR CRESCENT, B71 3EZ

- A Terraced Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Double Glazing & Central Heating
- Garage
- Freehold, No Upward Chain

£109,950

HEMBS CRESCENT, B43 5DG

- An Extended Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Double Glazing & Central Heating
- Driveway, Garage
- Freehold, No Upward Chain

£160,000

LYNDHURST ROAD, B71 3JE

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Central Heating

£155,000

Bartrams Sales and Lettings Limited
132 Walsall Road, Stone Cross, West Bromwich, B71 3HP
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145 Chepstow Road, Bloxwich
3 Bedroom Mid Terraced House
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3 Bedroom Semi Detached House
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99 Ashley Street, Bilston
3 Bedroom Mid Terraced House
Guide: £34,000 - £38,000

115 Trysull Road, Wolverhampton
2/3 Bedroom Bungalow
Guide: £133,000 - £138,000

6 Stratton Street, Wolverhampton
3 Bedroom End Terraced Property
Guide: £19,000 - £24,000

180 Bushbury Road, Wolverhampton
2 Bedroom Semi Detached Property
Guide: £75,000 - £80,000

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EPC: C

West Bromwich
St. Christopher Close
- Three bed detached
- Quiet cul-de-sac location
- Centrally heated
- Convenient to the M5 (J1)
- Dining room area
- Bathroom with shower

£675pcm

EPC: D

APPLICATION MADE

Tipton
Hellier Avenue
- Three bed detached
- Close to Dudley Port train station
- Gas CH & D/Glazed
- Fitted kitchen with integrated oven
- Downstairs WC
- Garage

£625pcm

EPC: D

Wednesbury
Hydes Road
- Recently redecorated
- Three bed semi
- Gas CH & D/Glazed
- Utility room
- Fully fitted kitchen with cooker
- Private rear garden

£575pcm

EPC: D

Wednesbury
Darby Road
- Three bedrooms
- Fitted kitchen with oven
- Separate dining room
- Bathroom with shower
- Rear garden
- Must be viewed!

£550pcm

EPC: C

Tipton
Thunderbolt Way
- Two bed apartment
- Gas central heated
- Double glazed throughout
- Fully fitted kitchen
- Bathroom with bath and shower
- Garage

£495pcm

EPC: C

APPLICATION MADE

Tipton
Thunderbolt Way
- Ground floor apartment
- D/Glazed & Centrally heated
- Breakfast kitchen
- Two double bedrooms
- Bathroom with shower
- Allocated car parking space

£475pcm

EPC: C

Tipton
Star Close
- Two bedroom semi
- Gas fired central heating
- Double glazing
- Attractive conservatory addition
- Bathroom with shower
- Private gardens

£450pcm

EPC: B

Tipton
Gough Drive
- One bedroom first floor apartment
- Kitchen with integrated cooker
- Bedroom with fitted wardrobes
- Bathroom with bath and shower facilities

£425pcm

EPC: E

Willenhall
Worcester Road
- Three bedrooms
- Fitted kitchen diner
- Lounge
- Verandah / sun room
- UPVC double glazing
- Gas central heating

£550pcm

EPC: D

Willenhall
Devon Road
- Three bed semi
- Gas central heating
- Double glazed
- Fitted dining kitchen
- Unfurnished
- Rear garden

£525pcm

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BRIERLEY HILL
Bent Street

NEW

TRINITY PROPERTY are pleased to offer for sale a unique opportunity to buy a traditional style DETACHED property with a yard and GARAGE/ WORKSHOP. Having TWO bedrooms, two reception rooms and an EXTENDED kitchen leading onto a YARD giving possibilities for business use (subject to planning). Located close to the MERRY HILL Shopping Centre, this property, previously used a coal merchants and having NO UPWARD CHAIN, is well worth viewing! EPC - F

£189,950

TIPTON
Jubilee Road

NEW

TRINITY PROPERTY are pleased to offer for sale a versatile and EXTENDED spacious home. Having an entrance porch, guest WC, lounge, dining room, fitted kitchen, spacious conservatory, MULT-USE room/ garage/ workshop, master bedroom with walk in wardrobe and ENSUITE, three further bedrooms, family bathroom, SECURE off road parking and front and rear gardens. The property comes with security cameras and SOLAR PANELS. EPC-D

£180,000

SEDGLEY
Dudley Road

NEW

A beautifully presented 1930's Detached house having lots of character and original features. The accommodation briefly comprises: Porch, entrance hall, THREE reception rooms, large modern fitted kitchen, Storage cupboard, WC and garage, split-top staircase leading to the first floor offering 5 bedrooms, en-suite, large family bathroom.. Ample driveway to the front. Walking distance to the village of Sedgley, good schools and local amenities. EPC - Ordered

£275,000

KINGSWINFORD
Ashley Close

NEW

A superb and very WELL PRESENTED semi detached property off Cot Lane, a desirable location in Kingswinford. Having an enclosed entrance porch, through hallway, dining room, SPACIOUS LOUNGE, first floor landing, THREE BEDROOMS and a shower room. Outside is a foregarden and a shared driveway leading to a DETACHED GARAGE and rear garden. Viewing comes highly recommended. EPC - Ordered

£189,950

DUDLEY
Southgate Way

NEW

TRINITY PROPERTY are very pleased to offer for sale a well presented second floor apartment in a popular location. Having a communal entrance via intercom, hallway, kitchen/ lounge with fitted appliances, double bedroom leading onto a Jack and Jill style bathroom. Having an allocated parking space, this property is ideal for a first time buyer or investment opportunity. Viewing is a must! EPC - B

£70,000

GORNAL
Goodrich Mews

NEW PRICE

A very well presented and well planned corner-turner style property having a spacious entrance hall, guest WC, lounge, KITCHEN DINER with fitted appliances, first floor landing, master bedroom with ENSUITE, two further bedrooms, family bathroom, front and rear gardens and a garage. VIEWING IS A MUST! EPC - B

£142,995

DUDLEY
Queens Hall, St

NEW PRICE

NO UPWARD CHAIN; an outstanding and exceptionally stylish top floor apartment situated in secured landscaped grounds within walking distance of Dudley town centre. The apartment comprises of; double bedroom with en-suite shower room, second bedroom, bathroom, large living room, allocated parking, professionally maintained/landscaped gated grounds. EPC - C

£104,950

TIPTON
Bell Street

NEW PRICE

This is a spacious mid-terraced property located in Tipton and is close to local shops, amenities and excellent transport links. Having an entrance hall, lounge diner, kitchen, three bedrooms, family bathroom, garage and a rear garden. Viewing is highly recommended EPC - D

£100,000

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DUDLEY
Cardoness Place

NEW PRICE

NO UPWARD CHAIN Trinity Property are pleased to offer a semi detached property in a popular location in Dudley. Having an entrance hall, SPACIOUS OPEN PLAN LOUNGE, kitchen diner with appliances, two bedrooms, family bathroom, front and rear LANDSCAPED gardens and two separate parking spaces. VIEWING COMES HIGHLY RECOMMENDED. EPC- D

£128,500

KINGSWINFORD
Halt Mews

NEW PRICE

A superb and well presented SEMI-DETACHED property on the highly demanded "Himley View" modern development. This property has been much improved from the original specification having an entrance hall, guest WC, FITTED KITCHEN , spacious lounge, two DOUBLE bedrooms, family bathroom and a well kept rear garden. Having two parking spaces to the front, viewing is highly recommended on this fantastic home! EPC - C

£152,950

OAKHAM
Greenfels Rise

PROPERTY

This is an EXTENDED four bedroom DETACHED HOME in a private cul-de-sac location in a CORNER POSITION. Having an entrance hallway, guest WC, extended lounge, FITTED DINING KITCHEN with appliances, CONSERVATORY, Family bathroom, attractive gardens to front, side and rear and a GARAGE. Located i in the popular residential area of OAKHAM and has easy access to M5/M6 corridor links. The property come highly recommended for early viewing. EPC - D

£260,000

BRIERLEY HILL
Bagleys Road

TO LET

A one bed first floor apartment in a popular residential area, with off road parking It has a good sized lounge and fitted kitchen off, a double bedroom, bathroom/WC with shower over the bath. Unfurnished, available to view now for long term rental. EPC -C

£370 PCM & Fees

DUDLEY
High Street Dudley

TO LET

A modern first floor apartment. Having one bedroom, open plan fitted kitchen/lounge, bathroom, secure entryphone. Central heating. Unfurnished, DSS considered with guarantor, EPC - C

£375 PCM & Fees

DUDLEY
Aldeney Close

TO LET

A modern first floor apartment on this new development. Accommodation comprising of one bedroom, open plan lounge/ fitted kitchen. Viewing highly recommended, No Pets, No DSS - EPC B

£465 PCM & Fees

TIPTON
Bean Drive

TO LET

A two bedroom 2nd floor Apartment, fully modern integrated kitchen, Bathroom with power shower, Central heating and triple glazing, Allocated parking space and security intercom, No DSS and no pets. Available now to view. EPC - B

£495 PCM & Fees

DUDLEY
Lingwood Hall,

TO LET

Two bed 1st floor apartment, lounge and dining area. Fitted kitchen with all appliances included. En suite to master bedroom. Bathroom with shower. Unfurnished. Gated parking with intercom. No Dss. No pets. Available now to view. EPC E

£550 PCM & Fees

ST JAMES'S RD
Tixall House

TO LET

A beautiful and stunning two bedroom apartment. This part furnished & spacious apartment is situated on the first floor of this converted building. With two spacious bedrooms with double bed and wardrobes. Having a modern fitted kitchen with fridge/freezer and washing machine. The lounge area benefits double patio doors overlooking the rear of the building with dining table and chairs. Modern bathroom. Central heating and double glazing. £525.00 PCM. EPC - C

£525 PCM & Fees

DUDLEY
Burton Road

TO LET

A three bed mid terraced house with lounge and dining room, kitchen to rear and bathroom/WC downstairs. Three bedrooms upstairs. Double glazing and central heating, garden to rear. No pets, DSS considered with guarantor and deposit. Available to view now. £500 security deposit. EPC - E.

£400 PCM & fees

DUDLEY
Ivanhoe Street

TO LET

Three bedroom end terrace. Has two reception rooms. kitchen with cooker, bathroom. central heating, double glazing. Unfurnished. DSS considered with guarantor. Available now to view. EPC - D

£495 PCM & Fees

BRIERLEY HILL
Milton Street

TO LET

A three bedroom semi detached house with two reception rooms. Fitted kitchen. Downstairs toilet. Upstairs bathroom. Two double bedrooms and further single. Driveway. Garden to rear. DSS considered with guarantor. No pets. EPC E

£525 PCM & Fees

TIVIDALE
Taylor Way

TO LET

A three bed detached property on a popular modern estate with good transport links, having double glazing and central heating, lounge, fitted kitchen/diner with utility room off, upstairs has three good sized bedrooms (master with en-suite shower/WC), house bathroom/WC. Front and rear gardens, off road parking, single garage. Unfurnished, available for long term rental. No pets, no smokers, no DSS. EPC - D

£695 PCM & Fees

DUDLEY
Priory Street

TO LET

A modern first floor apartment in the centre of Dudley having a kitchen/lounge (open plan) good-sized bedroom and shower room. Currently unfurnished but a possibility of being part furnished. Available now. DSS considered with guarantor & good references. EPC - C

£350 PCM & Fees

DUDLEY
Forest Road

TO LET

A three bedroom semi detached house situated in a popular residential area. The property briefly comprises of hallway, lounge, kitchen/ diner, downstairs bathroom, gardens to the front and rear and parking to the front. DSS considered with a guarantor. Pets also considered. Available now. EPC - C

£575 PCM & Fees

DUDLEY
Cornflower Crescent

TO LET

This is a two bedroom semi detached house with great transport links for the m5/m6 corridor. The property briefly comprises of lounge, dining kitchen, verandah and garden to the rear. DSS considered with a guarantor. EPC - F

£550 PCM & Fees

DUDLEY
Grange Road

TO LET

A beautifully present one bedroom ground floor apartment with secure entry, central heating and double glazing and off road parking (with security cameras). Having a good sized lounge/diner, modern fitted kitchen, bathroom/WC with shower over the bath, good sized double bedroom with built in wardrobes. Unfurnished, available now - no DSS, no pets. EPC - C

£425 PCM & Fees

BRIERLEY HILL
Station Road

TO LET

Double room to rent. Suit a 25● working female, shared lounges, kitchen and bathroom. Cat lover ideal. Landlord on site. Gas, electric and water bills included in rent. EPC - F

£320 PCM & Fees

TIVIDALE
Anchor Drive

TO LET

A modern first floor two bedroom coach house. Furnished, built in kitchen with appliances. Two good sized bedrooms, small rear garden. Central heating and double glazing. Bathroom with shower. Allocated parking space. No DSS, No pets. EPC - C

£495 PCM & Fees

DUDLEY
Ketley Hill Road

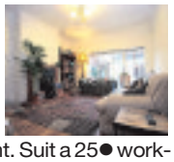
TO LET

Two bedroom semi-detached house. Has large lounge, fitted kitchen, two good size bedrooms. Upstairs bathroom with shower over bath. Central heating. Enclosed rear garden. Unfurnished and available to view now. DSS considered with guarantor. EPC - E

£500 PCM & Fees

Brierley Hill
Station Road

TO LET



Double room to rent. Suit a 25● working female, shared lounges, kitchen and bathroom. Cat lover ideal. Landlord on site. Gas, electric and water bills included in the rent. EPC - F

£280 PCM & Fees

DUDLEY
Parsons Street

TO LET

Ground floor two bedroom apartment. with lounge, bathroom and fitted kitchen with built in oven. Secure entry system. Walking distance to Dudley town centre. DSS considered with working guarantor. EPC - D

£495 PCM & Fees

DUDLEY
Ednam Road

TO LET

A fantastic opportunity to acquire newly converted stylish one and two bedroom apartments in this refurbished block. 1st & 2nd Floor Apartments available Now. Conveniently located in the town centre. Modern fitted kitchen and lounge area completed to a high standard, viewings are recommended to appreciate these spacious apartments. Stylish bathroom, shower over bath, Central heating and double glazing. Prices start from £475 PCM ● Fees. EPC Ordered

£475 PCM & Fees

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Wednesbury	Tipton	West Bromwich	Willenhall	Walsall	Bilston
0121 222 1301	0121 222 1304	0121 222 1307	01902 505971	01922 460781	01902 505974

Florence Road, Tipton

- End Terrace
- Upvc Double Glazing ● Gas Central Heating
- In need of Attention ● No Upward Chain
- 3 bedrooms, epc

OFFERS AROUND: £89,950
Viewing:

Carver Court, Tipton

- Purpose Built First Floor Flat
- Upvc Double Glazing ● No Upward Chain
- Ideal Purchase or buy to let investment
- 1 Bedroom, EPC F

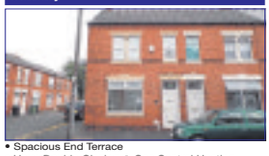
OFFERS AROUND: £57,000
Viewing:

Warren Close, Tipton

- Purpose Built Ground Floor Flat
- Upvc Double Glazing ● Gas Central Heating
- Corner Position
- 2 Bedrooms, epc

OFFERS AROUND: £75,950
Viewing:

Walford Street, Oldbury



- Spacious End Terrace
- Upvc Double Glazing ● Gas Central Heating
- Good Size Family Accommodation
- 3 Bedrooms, epc E

OFFERS AROUND: £114,950
Viewing:

Salter Road, Tipton

- Much Improved Middle Terrace
- Upvc double glazing ● gas central heating
- Spacious family accommodation
- 3 Bedrooms, epc D

OFFERS AROUND: £99,950
Viewing:

Rugeley Close, Tipton

- Modern Ground Floor Apartment
- Excellent Canal Side Position
- Upvc Double Glazing ● Electric Heating
- 1 Bedroom, epc C

OFFERS AROUND: £65,000
Viewing:

Rowland Hill Drive, Tipton

- Modern Middle Terrace
- Upvc Double Glazing ● Gas Central Heating
- No Upward Chain
- 2 Bedrooms, epc

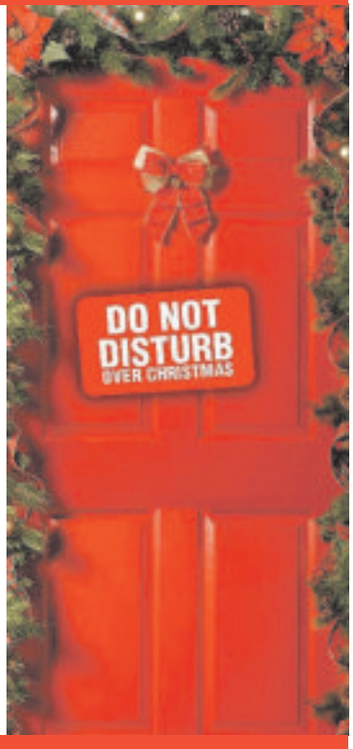
OFFERS AROUND: £100,000
Viewing:

Thinking of selling your property in the New Year but don't want to be disturbed over Christmas? We may have the perfect solution for you...

If you are thinking of selling a property in the new year, now is the time to get started to take advantage of these selling secrets:

- There is a huge increase in online property searches between Christmas and the New Year as buyers are sat at home with time on their hands.
- Allows us time to sift through enquiries and present you with only the most suitable applicants for your property.
- Immediate viewings once you're ready in the New Year.
- Gives your property a head start against people who market their property in the New Year.
- Buyers looking over the winter are usually very genuine. Having your property ready to sell, fresh and newly listed in the new year will give you an advantage over other sellers.

Let us visit your home and prepare your property for sale now. We will advertise your property online over the busy Christmas period to maximise the spike in search activity, however we promise not to disturb you until our doors re-open in the new year, leaving you to relax and enjoy Christmas undisturbed.



Call your local Paul Dubberley branch now to arrange a free, no obligation market appraisal

Locarno Road, Tipton

- Deceptively Spacious Family Home
- Upvc Double Glazing ● Gas Central Heating
- Well Presented Accommodation
- 3 Bedrooms, epc C

OFFERS AROUND: £110,000
Viewing:

Lindley Avenue, Tipton

- Traditional Extended Semi Detache
- Gas Central Heating ● Upvc Double Glazing
- viewing recommended
- 3 Bedrooms, epc D

OFFERS AROUND: £120,000
Viewing:

Lily Street, West Bromwich — NEW

- Ground Floor Flat
- 1 Bedroom
- Lounge
- , Kitchen

OFFERS AROUND: £44,950
Viewing:

Holyhead Road, Wednesbury

- Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Spacious Lounge & Living Area
- , Kitchen & Dining Room

OFFERS AROUND: £115,000
Viewing:

Sandfield Road, West Bromwich — NEW

- Extended Semi Detached
- 3 Bedrooms
- Lounge / Dining Area
- GCh, UPVC DG (where specified), Sitting Room

OFFERS AROUND: £132,500
Viewing:

Longmore Street, Wednesbury

- A Modern 3 Bedroom Semi Detached Home
- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Quiet Cul-deSac & Sought after Location
- Energy Rating C, Reception Hall

OFFERS AROUND: £130,000
Viewing:

Beeches Road, West Bromwich — NEW

- Semi Detached
- 3 Bedrooms
- Through hallway
- NO CHAIN, Lounge

OFFERS AROUND: £135,000
Viewing:

Grayling Close, Wednesbury

- Show Home Style Executive Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms (Master With En-Suite)
- Through Lounge Incorporating Dining Area
- , Superb Kitchen & Breakfast Area

OFFERS AROUND: £220,000
Viewing:

Devon Road, Wednesbury

- Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- First Floor Family Bathroom
- EPC Rating D, Lounge & Dining Room

OFFERS AROUND: £100,000
Viewing:

St. Peter Croft, Wednesbury

- Modern Style Detached Residence
- Master Bedroom With En-Suite
- Two Further Bedrooms
- EPC Rating: D, Lounge & Dining Room

OFFERS AROUND: £188,950
Viewing:

Charlemont Crescent, West Bromwich

- Detached House
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Front and Rear Gardens, Kitchen/Diner

OFFERS AROUND: £250,000
Viewing:

Poultney Street, West Bromwich

- End Terrace
- Three Bedrooms
- Driveway
- , First Floor Bathroom

OFFERS AROUND: £125,000
Viewing:

Kiniths Way, West Bromwich — NEW

- Extended Semi Detached
- 3 Bedrooms
- Porch, Through hallway
- NO CHAIN, Lounge

OFFERS AROUND: £179,995
Viewing:

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- OPEN TO OFFERS
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Offers in the Region Of £300,000

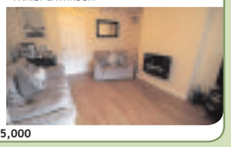
Doulton Road,Rowley Regis
- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Double Garage
- Off Road Parking
- Downstairs W.C.
- Living Room
- Dining Room
- Conservatory

£219,950

James Watt Street,West Bromwich
- Semi-detached
- Porch
- Two reception rooms
- Extended kitchen/diner
- Three bedrooms
- Bathroom

£169,950

Comberford Drive,Wednesbury
- SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
- ENTRANCE HALLWAY
- LOUNGE
- DINING ROOM
- KITCHEN
- UTILITY ROOM
- THREE BEDROOMS
- FAMILY BATHROOM



£155,000

Park Street,Wednesbury
- SEMI DETACHED HOME
- POPULAR LOCATION
- ENTRANCE PORCH
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- FITTED KITCHEN
- UTILITY ROOM

£145,000

Neptune Street,Tipton
- DETACHED PROPERTY
- TWO BEDROOMS
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- RECENTLY RE-FURBISHED
- DOUBLE GLAZED
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING
- FAMILY BATHROOM
- REAR GARDEN

Offers in the Region Of £140,000

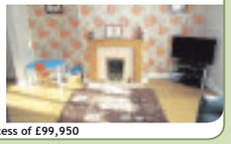
Remembrance Road,Wednesbury
- SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
- ENTRANCE HALLWAY
- FITTED KITCHEN
- CONSERVATORY
- FITTED BATHROOM
- THREE BEDROOMS

Offers in Excess of £129,950

Old Park Road,Wednesbury
- Terraced
- Three Bedrooms
- Open Plan Lounge Diner
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Downstairs WC
- Family Bathroom

Offers in Excess of £124,950

Salter Road,Tipton
- MID TERRACE
- THREE BEDROOM
- KITCHEN/DINER
- MODERN FITTED BATHROOM
- ENTRANCE HALLWAY
- REAR GARDEN
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- DG & GCH



Offers in Excess of £99,950

Queen Street,Wednesbury
- Semi Detached
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Rear Garden

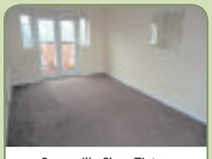
Offers in Excess of £90,000

Carrington Road,Wednesbury
- MID TERRACED HOUSE
- ENTRANCE HALL
- LOUNGE
- KITCHEN/DINER
- DOWNSTAIRS BATHROOM
- THREE BEDROOMS

Offers in the Region Of £90,000

Newbolt Road,Bilston
- POPULAR LOCATION
- MID TERRACED HOUSE
- ENTRANCE HALLWAY
- LOUNGE
- DOWNSTAIRS WC
- THREE BEDROOMS

£90,000



Bonneville Close,Tipton
- UPPER FLOOR FLAT
- GREAT ASPECT
- ENTRANCE HALLWAY
- SPACIOUS LOUNGE
- FITTED KITCHEN
- TWO BEDROOMS

£85,000

Thunderbolt Way,Tipton
- Second Floor
- No upward chain
- Two Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom
- Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen

£79,950

Toll End Road,Tipton
- NO CHAIN
- Two bedrooms
- Close to amenities
- Ample off road parking
- Lounge
- Spacious rooms

Offers in the Region Of £74,950

Mytton Grove,Tipton
- UPPER FLOOR FLAT
- WELL PRESENTED
- ONE BEDROOM
- SHOWER ROOM
- RECEPTION HALL
- LOUNGE

£65,000

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- Detached House
- Three Reception Rooms
- Study
- Family Bathroom
- Dresing Room
- Four Bedrooms

£199,995

Dagger Lane,West Bromwich
- HIGH DECEPTIVE
- TRADITIONAL MID TERRACED
- ENTRANCE HALLWAY
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- DOWNSTAIRS SHOWER ROOM
- KITCHEN/DINER

Offers in the Region Of £179,950

Stanley Road,Wednesbury
- SEMI DETACHED HOME
- ENTRANCE PORCH
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- CONSERVATORY
- FITTED KITCHEN
- DOWNSTAIRS BATHROOM

OIRO £153,000

Bull Lane,West Bromwich
- Four Bedroom
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Down Stairs W.C.
- Off Road parking
- Semi Detached House

Offers in the Region Of £150,000

Clothier Street,Willenhall
- Spacious Family Townhouse
- Four Bedrooms
- Spacious Lounge
- Modern Throughout
- Large Master Suite
- Family Bathroom

£135,000

Hall Street East,Wednesbury
- MID TERRACE
- THREE BEDROOMS
- TWO BATHROOMS
- KITCHEN
- LOUNGE
- LOUNGE/DINER

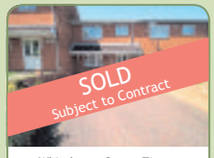
£130,000

Damson Wharf,Tipton
- Three Bedroom Three Storey
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Downstairs WC
- Family Bathroom
- Double Glazing and Gas Central Heating

94,000

Rookery Road,Wolverhampton
- SEMI DETACHED
- FOUR BEDROOMS
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- FAMILY BATHROOM
- EN-SUITE
- Ample PARKING

AGP £125,000



Whitehouse Street,Tipton
- IMPRESSIVE TOWN HOUSE
- ENTRANCE HALLWAY
- LOUNGE/DINER
- FITTED KITCHEN
- DOWNSTAIRS WC
- THREE BEDROOMS

OIRO £117,500

Houliston Close,Wednesbury
- ●●NO UPWARD CHAIN●●
- Well presented townhouse
- Two bedrooms
- Family bathroom
- Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen

Offers in Excess of £100,000

HOW CAN GOODCHILDS FIND A BUYER FOR YOUR PROPERTY BEFORE CHRISTMAS?

With many sources such as home.co.uk last week reporting the average time a property is on the market in Wolverhampton before securing a sale is **132 days!** then how can Goodchilds be so sure they can sell you property before Christmas, just over 60 days away.

Most statistics used by website's or reported by newspapers when discussing the property market are an average of all Estate Agents. This mean's they include the good Estate Agents in the statistics but also the poor performing Estate Agents and the distinctly average performing estate agents. Well Goodchilds is far from average they have won awards every year for the past six years for their exceptional service in the Estate Agency sector and their outstanding performance to their clients. Winning gold for **Best Midlands Estate Agency** it is no surprise that Goodchilds find buyers far quicker than the average time of a 132 days !!!
In fact the Goodchilds team are so confident they are setting the challenge to prove they are more than twice as Good as the average Estate Agent or pay you £500 cash back.

GOLD MIDLANDS LETTINGS AGENCY of the YEAR 2014
THE SUNDAY TIMES
THE TIMES

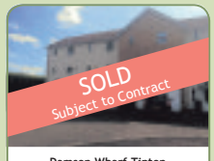
IF YOUR PROPERTY IS ON THE MARKET WITH ANOTHER AGENT THEN TAKE THE FOLLOWING CHALLENGE:

- ✓ AVERAGE ESTATE AGENT 132 DAYS
- ✓ 64 DAYS TO CHRISTMAS
- ✓ GOODCHILDS GUARANTEE TO FIND YOU A BUYER BEFORE CHRISTMAS OR PAY YOU £500 WHEN THEY DO!

Don't panic the award winning Goodchilds team have not gone crazy or so overconfident they are just giving money away. Whilst 64 Days is twice as good as the average Estate Agent and exceptionally good for most good Estate Agents the reason they are so confident is that 64 days is actually more than the average time it takes your local Goodchilds to find a buyer for their vendors. The average time from instruction to sold for properties instructed in the last 6 months for Goodchilds is less than 60 days !

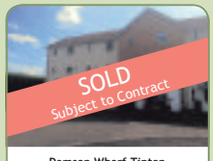
The Goodchilds team only get paid their bonus on completion of your sale meaning your goal to get your property sold and paid is completely aligned with our sales teams goal to get your property sold so Goodchilds get paid their commission and the sales team get paid there bonus. As well as ensure that your property gets sold we also monitor how close our team achieve in relation to your asking price and ensure we are the leading Estate Agents when it comes to achieving sales prices that are closer to your asking price than the average Estate Agent.

The Goodchilds team are also aware that selling your property is obviously the exciting part of any property move. However we are also aware that excitement is just one day and that there is a whole sales journey and customer experience that must also be exceptional if we are to keep winning awards. With this in mind our team only achieve their top level sales commission if they achieve over 94% Customer satisfaction which is marked by YOU rating them as exception not just good or satisfactory. A 17 branch network with offices in Wolverhampton, Wednesfield, Wednesbury, Telford, Tamworth, Sutton Coldfield, Stoke-on-Trent, Stafford, Milton Keynes, Lichfield, Erdington, Cannock, Bloxwich, Rugley (opening Jan) Brownhills and Birmingham provides you with a network of branches and an award winning team to sell your property. Goodchilds know Estate



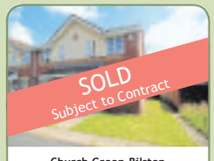
Damson Wharf,Tipton
- Three Bedroom Three Storey
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Downstairs WC
- Family Bathroom
- Double Glazing and Gas Central Heating

Offers in the Region Of £94,000



Damson Wharf,Tipton
- Three Bedroom Three Storey
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Family Bathroom & Downstairs WC
- Will Bring £560 PCM
- Double Glazing and Gas Central Heating

Offers in Excess of £88,000

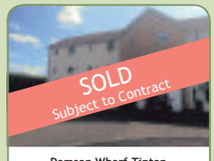


Church Green,Bilston
- 2 Bedrooms
- End Terrace
- Double Glazing
- Modern Build
- Modern Kitchen
- Allocated Parking

Offers in the Region Of £87,500

School Street,Wolverhampton
- Mid Terraced Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Kitchen/Diner
- Downstairs W.C.
- Integral Garage

OIRO £84,950



Damson Wharf,Tipton
- Three Bedroom Three Storey
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Downstairs WC
- Family Bathroom
- Double Glazing and Gas Central Heating

Offers in Excess of £79,000

Evans Street,Willenhall
- Semi Detached
- Three Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom
- Kitchen
- One reception room
- Rear garden

Offers in Excess of £70,000

Clarence Road,Wolverhampton
- Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- bathroom
- Large rear Garden

OIRO 60000

View properties online www.goodchilds-uk.com

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Connells

WEDNESBURY
22 Springhead, Wednesbury WS10 9AD

Goldby Drive
Wednesbury **£135,000** REDUCED

VIEWING ESSENTIAL to appreciate this well presented modern style three bedroom three storey town house briefly comprising of, open plan lounge with fitted kitchen area, ground floor shower room, en-suite to master bedroom, family bathroom, enclosed rear garden, garage and off road parking. EPC Rating C.

Somerset Crescent
Wednesbury **£125,000** NEW

A three bedroom semi-detached property briefly comprising of, double glazing and central heating (as specified) two reception rooms, fitted kitchen, first floor shower room with separate WC, enclosed rear garden and drive-way providing off road parking. EPC Rating TBC.

Myrtle Terrace
Tipton **£145,000** NEW

VIEWING ESSENTIAL to appreciate this two bedroom semi-detached bungalow briefly comprising of, double glazing and central heating (as specified) lounge, fitted kitchen, utility, shower room, enclosed rear garden, off road parking. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC Rating TBC.

Addenbrook Way
Tipton **£269,950** NEW

Situated in a much sought after location VIEWING ESSENTIAL to appreciate this stunning executive four bedroom detached property briefly comprising of lounge, sitting room, conservatory, dining room (converted garage) re-fitted contemporary style kitchen and en-suite to master bedroom. EPC Ratimg D.

Meeting Street
Wednesbury **£80,000** NEW

Benefiting from NO UPWARD CHAIN viewing highly advised to appreciate this well maintained ground floor apartment briefly comprising gated off road parking, reception hall, open plan lounge with fitted kitchen area, fitted bathroom and two bedrooms.EPC rating C.

Meeting Street
Wednesbury **£72,500** NEW

Benefiting from NO UPWARD CHAIN viewing highly recommended to appreciate this first floor apartment briefly comprising of, secure intercom entry system, reception hall, open plan lounge and fitted kitchen area, fitted bathroom, one bedroom, gated off road parking. EPC Rating C.

The Oaks, Gospel Oak
Tipton **£179,995**

LAST PLOT REMAINING ON PHASE ONE ! SHOW HOME OPEN THURSDAY - MONDAY 11am -5pm. A stunning new development of high spec family eco homes with Magnet fitted kitchen, triple glazed windows and under-floor heating. HELP TO BUY and ASSISTED MOVE AVAILABLE. Call Now on 0121 556 2338 to book a viewing appointment.

Lower Church Lane
Tipton **From**

●●Last Few Plots Remaining●● Stunning brand new three bedroom family homes ready to move into. With amenities ranging from good schools and stunning parks to easy access to the M5 and Birmingham, Crompton Place is an ideal choice for first time buyers, families and commuters alike. Part Exchange and Help To Buy

Gloucester Road
Wednesbury **£120,000**

Benefiting from NO UPWARD CHAIN viewing highly recommended on this three bedroom semi-detached property briefly comprising of entrance hall, lounge, conservatory, fitted kitchen, ground floor shower room, enclosed rear garden. EPC Rating D.

Crankhall Lane
Wednesbury **£105,000**

VIEWING ESSENTIAL to appreciate this well presented two bedroom end-terraced property briefly comprising lounge, re-fitted kitchen, ground floor WC, conservatory, first floor bathroom, enclosed rear garden, drive-way providing off road parking. EPC Rating C.

Manor Road
Wednesbury **£99,950**

Benefiting from NO UPWARD CHAIN an ideal opportunity to purchase this well maintained three bedroom end-terrace property briefly comprising of reception hall, lounge, fitted kitchen, ground floor WC, first floor bathroom, front and rear gardens. EPC Rating D.

Broadwaters Road
Darlaston **£120,000** NEW

Benefiting from NO UPWARD CHAIN an extended three bedroom semi-detached property briefly comprising of through lounge, sitting room, ground floor WC, fitted kitchen, first floor bathroom, loft room with wet room, enclosed rear garden and drive-way providing off road parking. EPC Rating E.

WEST BROMICH
3 Astle Park, West Bromwich B70 8NS

Dudley Street
West Bromwich **£109,950**

A 3 bedroom mid terrace property comprising entrance hallway, 2 reception rooms,nner lobby, kitchen and downstairs shower room. The property also benefits from a further upstairs bathroom,gas central heating, double glazing (where specified) and front and rear gardens. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC RATING E

Shropshire Way
West Bromwich **£85,000** REDUCED

A 2 bedroom ground floor maisonette briefly comprising of an entrance hallway,lounge leading in to kitchen. The property also benefits from a family bathroom,gas central heating,double glazing (where specified) and an allocated parking space. The property is being offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC RATING C

Spon Lane
West Bromwich **£99,950**

A two bedroom end terrace property, briefly comprising of a porch, lounge, inner hallway and kitchen. The property also benefits from an upstairs bathroom, separate WC, electric storage heaters, double glazing and rear parking. The property is being sold with NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC RATING F

Pennyhill Lane
West Bromwich **£229,995**

A modern beautifully presented and well maintained 5 bedroom mid terrace town house in one of West Bromwich's sought after locations boasting stunning views, offering en suite to 3 bedrooms, study, conservatory, garage, guest cloakroom, family bathroom, fitted kitchen/diner, double glazing, central heating. EPC RATING C

Smithmoor Crescent
West Bromwich **£110,000** REDUCED

Mid terrace property situated in a residential area and being in close proximity to local transport links bus and trains at Tame Bridge station and briefly comprising three bedrooms, lounge, upstairs family bathroom, garage to the rear and off road parking to the front. EPC RATING D

Freda Road
West Bromwich **£150,000** NEW

A well presented & extended 3 bedroom end terrace property, comprising of a porch, entrance hallway, two reception rooms, extended kitchen/ diner. It also benefits from an upstairs family bathroom, central heating and double glazing (where specified), front and rear gardens, rear driveway and rear garage. EPC RATING D

Doulton Drive
Smethwick **£175,000** NEW

A 3 bedroom modern style semi detached property, briefly comprising of an entrance hallway, downstairs WC, lounge,dining room and kitchen. The property also benefits from an upstairs bathroom, gas central heating, double glazing (where specified), gardens to front and rear, off road parking and a side garage. EPC

Navigation Lane
West Bromwich **£135,000** NEW

A very well presented 2 bedroom mid terrace property briefly comprising of a porch, vestibule entrance,lounge and kitchen .The property also benefits from an upstairs bathroom, gas central heating and double glazing (where specified), off road parking and a rear garden. INTERNAL VIEWING IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED - EPC

St Stephens Road
West Bromwich **£135,000** NEW

A 3 bedroom semi detached property on a corner plot and comprising of a porch, lounge, kitchen, upstairs bathroom. The property also benefits from gas central heating, double glazing (where specified), rear gardens and off road parking. EPC RATING D

Hawkins Street
West Bromwich **£138,000** NEW

A well presented 3 bedroom semi detached property, briefly comprising of an entrance hallway, lounge and kitchen. The property also benefits from an upstairs bathroom, gas central heating, double glazing, (where specified), off road parking, garage & rear garden. NO UPWARD CHAIN - EPC RATING D

Tame Street
West Bromwich **£199,950** NEW

A 3/4 bedroom detached property briefly comprising of an entrance, lounge, kitchen/ diner, reception room/bedroom 4, conservatory & a downstairs wet room. Also benefits from an upstairs family bathroom, central heating, double glazing (where specified), off road parking for multiple vehicles and a rear garden. EPC RATING D

Bridle Grove
West Bromwich **£239,950**

A 3 Bedroom detached property, entrance hallway, downstairs cloakroom, lounge, kitchen,utility, upstairs family bathroom, master bedroom with en suite, central heating, double glazing (where specified)front and rear gardens, off road parking and garage. EPC RATING D

OLDBURY
70/76 Birmingham Street, Oldbury B69 4EB

Darbys Hill Road
Tividale **£399950**

EPC RATING D - A 19th century detached property.

●●MUST BE VIEWED TO APPRECIATE THE

UNIQUE FEATURES OF THIS PROPERTY●●

Silverlands Avenue
Oldbury **£154,950**

EPC RATING D - ●SOUGHT AFTER CUL-DE-SAC LOCATION● A traditional three bedroom semi detached property requiring some modernisation with two reception rooms and DOUBLE GARAGE. Double glazing and central heating where specified. VIEWING IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

Parkfield Road
Oldbury **£139,950** NEW

EPC RATING AWAITED - A TRADITIONAL semi

detached home situated in this POPULAR location

requiring some SYMPATHETIC MODERNISATION

but offering good sized accommodation.

Birch Road
Oldbury **£124,950**

*NOTICE OF OFFER - Property address:37 Birch Road Oldbury B68 0NY. We would advise that an offer has been made for the above property in the sum of £117,995.00 Any person wishing to increase on this offer should notify the agents of their best offer within the next 7 days. EPC RATING D

Fairway Avenue
Tividale **£119,950** NEW

EPC RATING E - A well presented semi detached

home situated in this POPULAR local with

EXCELLENT ACCESS to local amenities.

Ascot Close
Oldbury **£115,000** REDUCED

EPC RATING D - Connells are pleased to present this semi detached family home with NO UPWARD CHAIN briefly comprising lounge, kitchen / diner, three bedrooms, family bathroom, off road parking and car port. Double glazing and storage heating where specified.

Enfield Road
Rowley Regis **£109,950** NEW

EPC RATING C - A terraced home situated in this

CONVENIENT location with EXCELLENT access to

local amenities and transport links.

York Road
Rowley Regis **£109,950** REDUCED

EPC RATING D - A spacious semi detached home

situated in this CONVENIENT LOCATION with

excellent access to all local amenities. In need

of some SYMPATHETIC REFURBISHMENT but

offering good sized accommodation

Falfield Close
Rowley Regis **£100,000**

EPC RATING C - We are pleased to offer for sale this semi detached home situated on this SPACIOUS plot offer POTENTIAL TO EXTEND subject to planning permission and comprises entrance hall, lounge diner, kitchen, two bedrooms and bathroom to first floor, off road parking and rear garden.

Tower Road
Tividale **£99,950** NEW

EPC RATING AWAITED - A semi detached property

in need of SOME MODERNISATION comprising

three bedrooms, two reception rooms, kitchen,

bathroom and rear garden. ●●NO UPWARD

CHAIN●●

Oakthorpe Gardens
Tividale **£84,950**

EPC RATING F - ●●IDEAL FIRST TIME BUYER / DOWNSIZER PROPERTY●● An IMMACULATE, REFURBISHED first floor apartment with own entrance, lounge, refitted kitchen, two bedrooms, refitted bathroom. ●●The lease on this apartment has been EXTENDED and has 154 years left to run●● VIEWING IS VERY HIGHLY

Broadwell Road
Oldbury **£80,000**

EPC RATING D - An end terraced home in need of COMPLETE RENOVATION but offering spacious accommodation to comprise entrance hall, lounge, breakfast kitchen, downstairs w.c, two bedrooms, bathroom, separate w.c, front and rear gardens. Double glazing and central heating where specified.

BEARWOOD
122 Poplar Road, Bearwood B66 4AP

Hales Crescent
Smethwick **£139,450**

A VERY WELL MAINTAINED end townhouse situated within a popular and convenient area of Smethwick and having gas central heating and being mostly double glazed, having lounge, dining room, kitchen, sun room, downstairs WC, three bedrooms and bathroom. Ample parking for upto 3 cars. EPC D

Primrose Bank
Smethwick **£130,000** NEW

Connells are pleased to announce the opportunity to purchase a three bedroom family home in a quiet cul de sac in a popular location offering a driveway to front and large size garden to the rear. The property is in need of some modernisation but has extensive potential to be a great family home. EPC D

Winson Street
Winson Green **£175,000** NEW

A well presented semi detached house, situated

within close proximity to the city centre. This

family home comprises of four bedrooms, three

reception rooms and driveway with space for up

to two cars. EPC D

Reginald Road
Bearwood **£125,000** REDUCED

A well maintained and well presented two

bedroom mid terrace property. Having gas central

heating and double glazing where specified, the

accommodation comprises of: Lounge, Dining

Room, Inner Hallway, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms,

Family Bathroom and Garden to Rear.

Dunsford Road
Smethwick **£130,000** NEW

A well presented two bedroom terrace house

within close proximity to Bearwood High street.

Is perfect for first time buyers and potential

landlords, having a large through lounge, modern

kitchen and generous garden space. EPC D

Addenbrook Road
Smethwick **£125,000**

An end townhouse with gas central heating and

double glazing where specified and comprising:

entrance lobby, lounge, kitchen/diner, sun room,

three bedrooms, bathroom. off-road parking,

gardens. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC: D

Shenstone Road
Edgbaston **£225,000**

Deceptively spacious end terrace property occupying a corner plot, having gas central heating to include vertical white radiators and double glazing, entrance lobby, hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, understairs storage, three spacious bedrooms and loft room, off road parking and garage. EPC Rating E

Slatch House Road
Smethwick **£130,000**

A fantastic family home in an ideal location with

close proximity to Bearwood. The property is a

three bedroom semi detached with a driveway,

gardens to front and rear. EPC E

Anderson Road
Bearwood **£139,950**

A fantastic opportunity to purchase a detached residence, situated in the heart of the popular and desirable Bearwood area, Having two Bedrooms, off road car parking and no upward chain. Viewing is essential to appreciate the uniqueness of the property. EPC D

The Hollies, Holly Lane
Smethwick **£229,000**

This generously sized three bedroom home boasts a spacious lounge/dining room with French doors to rear garden, kitchen and ground floor cloakroom. Located on the first floor are three bedrooms all with fitted wardrobes, the master-bedroom has an en-suite and family bathroom. The garden is turfed. The property comes with

The Hollies, Holly Lane
Smethwick **£157,500**

A generously sized 806 sq ft 2 bedroom semi detached home with choice of kitchen finishes to include white goods, built in wardrobe and en suite to master bedroom, choice of flooring and allocated parking in private courtyard. 10 Year Warranty. Photo's are for illustration only.

Pavilion Avenue
Smethwick **£135000**

A VERY WELL PRESENTED three bedroom mid townhouse in a cul-de-sac location, with a stunning open plan kitchen/diner, extended lounge, upstairs bathroom, rear garden with patio area. Located on the borders of Oldbury and Smethwick, giving easy access to motorway links and local amenities. This would represent the

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CASTLE ROAD WEST, OLDBURY

IMMACULATE semi-detached home with potential to extend to [illegible] DRIVEWAY to [illegible] own garden to rear. EPC rating: D

SOLD

QUINTON £189,950

WOLVERHAMPTON RD, OLDBURY

6 BEDROOMED DETACHED RESIDENCE 3 RECEPTION rooms, [illegible] useful store & [illegible]

SOLD

BEARWOOD £495,000

GALTON ROAD, BEARWOOD

A rare opportunity to acquire an EXTREMELY SPACIOUS, DELIGHTFU[illegible] -FL[illegible] [illegible] CHAIN

SOLD

BEARWOOD £199,950

SHERWOOD ROAD, SMETHWICK

SPACIOUS & EXTENDED home close to Bearwood High Street [illegible] heating & [illegible] UPVC DG. EPC rating: Ref: D1568

SOLD

QUINTON £165,000

BARTLEET ROAD, SMETHWICK

4 bed DETACHED with sitting room /study, delightful lounge (arch [illegible]) [illegible] DOUBLE GA[illegible]

SOLD

BEARWOOD £279,950

GRAFTON ROAD, OLDBURY

SUPERB family home with UPVC CONSERVATORY. Dining area leading [illegible] fitted. EPC [illegible]

SOLD

QUINTON £159,950

WIGORN ROAD, BEARWOOD

NO UPWARD CHAIN. REFITTED kitchen & 2 separate reception rooms [illegible]

SOLD

QUINTON £134,950

LOOK AT WHAT WE DID IN 2015

THERE IS STILL PLENTY OF TIME TO JOIN THEM AND GET YOUR PROPERTY SOLD SUBJECT TO CONTRACT THIS YEAR

NO SALE NO FEE

On this page, you will see a selection of the sales achieved from our 2 branches this year.

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PARK ROAD, BEARWOOD

Deceptively SPACIOUS, well presented END TERRACE, most CONVE[illegible]

SOLD

BEARWOOD £149,950

UPPER ST MARYS RD, BEARWOOD

A delightfully presented, spacious and thoughtfully improved 2 bedroo[illegible]

SOLD

BEARWOOD £159,950

GALTON ROAD, BEARWOOD

A SPACIOUS 3 bed mid terrace, Convenient for Bearwood Town Centre [illegible]

SOLD

BEARWOOD £184,950

PARK ROAD, BEARWOOD

An attractively presented, spacious, 2 bedroomed intermediate [illegible]

SOLD

BEARWOOD £139,950

LIGHTWOODS HILL, BEARWOOD

2 bedroomed intermediate terraced property with DELIGHTFUL OUTLOOK TO [illegible]

SOLD

BEARWOOD £185,950

MILCOTE ROAD, SMETHWICK

Terraced home with WESTERLY facing rear garden close to Bearwood [illegible] [illegible] LOW [illegible] rooms to front & rear

SOLD

D1567 £144,950

CORNWALL AVENUE, OLDBURY

SUPERB terraced home with DRIVEWAY for up to 6 cars on the front! [illegible]

SOLD

D1523 £124,950

WIGORN ROAD, BEARWOOD

WELL PRESENTED home with 2 reception rooms & REFITTED kitchen [illegible]

SOLD

BEARWOOD £154,950

RAMSAY ROAD, OLDBURY

MUCH IMPROVED 3 bed semi with off road parking REFITTED BREAKFAST K[illegible] [illegible] rear garden with SUNNY

SOLD

D1315 £164,950

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Detached on corner plot in a desirable location

A TRULY impressive and superbly appointed detached in Westwick Close, Stonnall, Walsall, occupies a corner plot in a most desirable location. It is for sale through Edwards Moore at £275,000.

With gas central heating and double glazing the accommodation includes a porch, reception hall, downstairs WC, an appealing lounge, an excellent dining room, a spacious kitchen, three excellent bedrooms, an attractively fitted bathroom, a large double garage, private easily maintained rear garden with a large summer house, fore garden with parking and lawned area which continues to the side and further parking to rear.

Stonnall village benefits from local shopping and public transport services connect it to Aldridge, Lichfield, Brownhills and Walsall with the railway station in nearby Shenstone connecting to Sutton Coldfield and Birmingham New Street. Call 01922 745105 or visit www.edwardsmoore.co.uk

Link-detached part of Mews development

THIS deceptively spacious modern link-detached residence in Old Mill House Close, Pelsall, Walsall is part of a Mews courtyard development in the grounds of Mill House.

It is for sale through Skitts at £239,950.

With double glazing and gas central heating it has a reception hall with stairs off, a guest WC, a lounge with a wall mounted bio-ethanol fireplace and double doors out to the rear gardens, a dining room, a breakfast kitchen with a built in electric fan assisted oven and inset four ring gas hob with cooker hood above, integrated dishwasher and washing machine, utility/hallway, three bedrooms (one en-suite) and a bathroom.

Outside are two allocated parking spaces, communal gardens and a metal garden store.

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Offers in excess of £325,000

WEST BROMWICH

DAGGER LANE
Cottage built during the reign of Queen Anne with many period features. In need of updating and improvement but warranting full internal inspection. Lounge, dining room, sitting room, kitchen, lobby, two further sitting rooms/bedrooms, downstairs shower, two bedrooms and bathroom, central heating, garage, parking, established gardens to front and rear. EPC Rating C.
Offers in the region of £259,950

OLDBURY

TAYLOR WAY
A detached family residence built approximately 13 years ago by Bellway Homes. Entrance hall, cloakroom, lounge, dining room, kitchen, utility, three bedrooms, ensuite shower and family bathroom, central heating, double glazing, garage and parking, rear garden. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC Rating D
Offers in the region of £179,950

TIVIDALE

DUDLEY ROAD WEST
Detached family home of individual design comprising porch, entrance hall, kitchen, lobby, downstairs toilet, lounge, conservatory, three bedrooms, ensuite shower and family bathroom. Central heating, off-road parking and garage. Large private rear garden. INTERNAL INSPECTION RECOMMENDED. EPC Rating E
Offers in the region of £179,950

OLDBURY

FARM ROAD
A fully modernised and improved mid-terraced property. Side entrance into hall, two reception rooms, lobby, kitchen area, bathroom, staircase to first floor landing, three bedrooms, central heating, double glazing where specified, garden to rear. EPC Rating E
Offers in the region of £99,950

WEST BROMWICH

PRINCES GATE
A first floor flat comprising communal entry phone entrance, staircase extending to first floor landing, metal entrance door to reception hall, lounge, kitchen, 2 bedrooms, bathroom, electric heating and double glazing, allocated car parking space. EPC Rating C
Offers in the region of £84,950

OLDBURY

LANGLEY MEDE, CROSSWELLS ROAD
Ground floor flat offering spacious accommodation and situated in a convenient location an ideal first time purchase or investment opportunity, we are pleased to offer this . Entrance hall, kitchen, lounge, two bedrooms, airing cupboard, bathroom. Gardens to front and side. Rear parking. EPC Rating D
Offers in the region of £64,950

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£575 pcm

TO LET OLDBURY

SUMMERTON ROAD
A second floor unfurnished two bedroomed flat offering excellent opportunity for single person or couple for long-term tenancy comprising communal areas with entry phone secure access, hall entrance, lounge, kitchen/diner combined, two bedrooms, bathroom, double glazing, electric storage heating, allocated parking and visitors parking to rear. DEPOSIT £780 - EPC Rating TBC
£550 pcm

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Making Friends

Women seeking men

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LADY, young looking 57, working full-time, very fit and active, looking for a male of similar age for friendship or maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 4444 Box No: 419725**

KATIE 35yrs, slender well educated brunette seeks no strings mutual pleasure with gent 40+ Must be discreet, married or single. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 4294 Box 419673**

CATHY, 42, good looking brunette with a real passion for life, seeking male for happy times, dates, chats, romance and more. Pls call. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420073**

DISCREET man wanted by married lady for no strings fun. I'm called Sarah and am 37yrs. Pls call, ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 4299 Box 418167**

MAGGIE, 72 yrs young, good sense of humour, well presented, WLTM kind, sincere chappie to share coffee and a chat. **Text only to Mailbox no: 5310040**

CHRISTINA, curvy beauty, 27yrs, own home, very very adventurous seeks no strings fun and frolics. **Tel No: 0906 515 4293 Box 410127**

LOUISE 35, dark hair, blue eyes, attractive ex air hostess, looking for fun times with older male for romantic nights in and more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420043**

MAUREEN, discreet sensual lady, 42yrs seeks daytime fun at her home. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 4275 Box: 405297**

39 yr old independent single Mom, knows the benefit of having a good man in the picture. **Text only to Mailbox no: 5084796**

ATTRACTIVE solvent business woman, 36yrs, seeks discreet gent any age for no strings discreet fun. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 4693 Box 419701**

FRANCES, 45, busty female, loves nights in/out, seeking uncomplicated male who can occupy my free time for quality companionship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420003**

LOUISE, pretty hairdresser, works long hours, finds it hard to meet a boyfriend, 34yrs, own flat. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4192572**

FEMALE, seeks fun loving male who likes a drink and a laugh, to enjoy erotic experiences with a curvy brunette. Discretion guaranteed. **Text only to Mailbox no: 5079311**

JENNI, single mum seeks single dad, own home, can accommodate and loves spoiling her man. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4115108**

MARY, pretty, friendly, lots of fun, lives in Kidderminster, loves the theatre, opera, ballet, WLTM a lovely, charming, funny, genuine guy, 30s, to settle down with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419883**

FEMALE fun brunette, attractive, 26, seeking male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416287**

LOU, 45, lives in Shrewsbury, WLTM a lady between 42-49 with blue eyes, must be kind, caring and funny to mend my broken heart, someone who likes to curl up on the sofa for cozy nights in. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419855**

FREYA 24yr old single mum, looking for male for free time frolics, call me if you're interested, it could be fun! **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419851**

LISA 38 slim attractive blonde, looking for a man who will appreciate a feminine, fashionable, fun, romantic sensual woman with a mind of her own. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419839**

SARAH 38, slim, nice looking, sensual, tactile, no ties, WLTM kind, loving male to enjoy affectionate relationship. Any age/looks. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419821**

PAT 66, attractive, N/S, likes reading, nights out, seeks gent for friendship, days out and more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418277**

68YR old widow, attractive, seeks sincere, N/S male, likes reading, meals out and walks. West Midlands. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414773**

JULIA 47, looking for genuine, reasonably attractive male friend, may to lead to more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419695**

LADY Penelope seeks her very own Parker (47-58) to go on a voyage of discovery and romance. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4550237**

BLACK lady seeks white male over 60, any location, for friendship and hopefully a lot more. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4256384**

CHARLENE, 24, petite curvy young blonde seeks similar cheeky, fun loving guy for lots of fun and loving. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419597**

JOANNA, 36, petite, auburn haired female, lovely figure seeks loving older male for fun nights out and cosy nights in. Maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419595**

SHARON 32, attractive black single mum of one, very tactile and passionate, WLTM male 45-65yrs for fun meets. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419579**

MARIE, 43, fun blue-eyed brunette, fit and active, seeks similar male to have a laugh with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419417**

KAREN 50, widow, likes swimming, horse riding, keep fit, clay pigeon shooting, GSOH, N/S, non drinker, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415211**

Men seeking women

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DARREN, 44, slim build, dark brown hair, green eyes, seeks genuine female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418809**

MICHAEL, school teacher, very shy and lonely, 42yrs, own home, car, seeks genuine caring lady. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4156561**

STEVE 39, 5ft 9ins, medium build, likes walks, seeks female, slim-medium build, single mum welcome. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396709**

6FT well built guy, nicely groomed looking for fun intimate nights or day with slim/medium build attractive lady 35-55. **Text only to Mailbox no: 5132460**

ALAN, 56 year old builder, muscular build, five foot ten, fit, likes the gym, pubs, clubs and days out, seeks female with similar interests. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419975**

ATTRACTIVE, fit, sporty, tactile, youthful black male seek relationship with lady. N/S. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4851641**

WIDOWER, quiet, easygoing, slim, 5ft 7 tall, smart, varied interests, seeks slimish lady, 50 to 65 yrs for caring relationship. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4906469**

TIM, easygoing honest male, discreet, uninhibited, seeks similar non-conformist averagely attractive, N/S female up to 65. Notts. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 375065**

SUBMISSIVE 44year old WLTM dominant female 25-30 years who enjoys role play with friendship and maybe possible relationship. **Text only to Mailbox no: 5084114**

MARK 40, 5ft 9ins, brown hair/eyes, attractive, good looking, OHAC/business, likes walks, day trips, cinema, seeks similar female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 348239**

PROFESSIONAL male, 41, own business, likes to enjoy life, clubs, pubs, cinema, gym, seeks similar female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 360283**

MALE 45yrs old, self-employed motor trader/mechanic, medium build, green eyes, average looks. I am a nice genuine and honest person looking for similar lady to share a honest permanent relationship and happy times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418709**

GENTLEMAN, 57, slightly mad but not bad, who will make you ever so glad that you answered his ad! **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419307**

MIKE late 60's fit, active, genuine and generous, very passive seeks assertive lady any age / looks for mutual benefits. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4747481**

STOCKY, bold, unhappily married man, seeks similar very discreet female for exciting rendezvous. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4757315**

ATTRACTIVE tall black male would like to meet female for day time fun and discreet meetings, any age or location. **Text only to Mailbox no: 5077442**

JAMES GSOH, likes theatre, meals out, socialising, seeking easy going female, 35-55. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417469**

MALE 60s WLTM genuine fun lady, 50/60s nights in or out, likes swimming, walks, music, good food etc for friendship or more. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4852727**

TIM, easygoing honest male, discreet, uninhibited, seeks similar non-conformist averagely attractive, N/S female up to 65. Notts. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 375065**

STEVE young 40, looking for uncomplicated adult fun with any age race female ACA. **Text only to Mailbox No: 4880449**

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CALL PETE - MAN WITH A VAN, Removals, clearances, large/small. 01902 741546, 07899 635852.

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4 Pets & Animals

equestrian corner

ALL READERS are advised to check if Horses have the required Passport information.

guns & dogs

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NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS
Advertisers must ensure that they meet all necessary legal requirements for owning and using guns.

pets corner

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Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer:
1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with it's Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree.
Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

vets

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5 Business & Farming

business opportunities

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commercial premises sale / let

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6 Property

properties wanted

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NOTICE TO READERS It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

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overseas property

NOTICE TO READERS
Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

7 Jobs

hotel & catering

WEEKEND BAR & WAITING STAFF Wednesbury area. Call Nick 07747 730215

courses

MTS HGV training, Willenhall. Minibus, 7.5 tonne C1 & car & trailer 01902 866510 / 07807 035066

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To request an application pack please contact our HR Department on 01422 376881 or by email at hr@communitytransport.org Please ensure you specify the job title when requesting an application pack.

The successful candidate will be required to undergo an enhanced DBS.

The closing date for applications is 25 November 2015 Interviews will be held on 10 and 11 December 2015.

Community Transport is an equal opportunities employer

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engineering

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8 Motoring

cars over £1500

BMW 320D M Sport, blue, 58 reg, 145,000 miles, good condition, £5,250 ono. 07836 568903.

CITREON C2 FURIO 1.4, 2007, only 40,000 miles, blue, MoT, metallic paint, service history. Very good condition. £1,950 ono. 01902 380290.

HONDA HRV 4 wheel drive, 2001, one owner from new, 76k, tow bar etc, slight work required for MoT. £850 ono. 07850 233858.

JAGUAR X TYPE 2.0, diesel, 55 reg, 76k, just serviced, silver, leather, immaculate condition. £2,800. May part-ex for van. 07867 685569.

NISSAN NOTE 1.6SVE 07 reg, low miles, fsh, 1 previous owner, MoT, alloys, AC, privacy glass, half leather, £1,995. 07508 602637.

TOYOTA AVENSIS

2.0 diesel, 2006, 115,000 miles, MoT till June 2016, air con.

£2,200 ono.
01785 222092 /
07790 998250.

TOYOTA YARIS 2005, lady owner, low mileage, MoT till April 2016, good runner, immaculate condition, £2,350 ono. 07580 998347.

PEUGEOT PARTNER WAV. 1.4 Horizon, 2010, Disabled wheelchair access ramp with electric winch, lowered floor, one lady owner, 43,000 miles, 4 seats. Excellent condition. **£4,999 ono. 07976 653388.**

cars under £1500

ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED
that the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

BMW 530 DIESEL, 2001, 141k, met green, a/c, alarm, long MoT, remote c/l, cruise con, pas, stereo CD, towbar, £1,300 ono. 01543 502689.

FORD FOCUS 1.8 TDDI SMART/VEG 04/54, 144k miles, Estate, silver, new clutch belt, Ghia great car, 1 owner. fsh. £795. 07472 418193.

HYUNDAI AMICA S1, 2001, 99cc, 5-dr hatchback, MoT till Feb, blue, low mileage 59,000. well looked after. £450 ono. 07720 972892.

JAGUAR S TYPE 2002, very good condition, MoT, serviced, low mileage bargain at £875. 01922 479743 or 07866 823209.

MERCEDES C180 Elegance auto, 1999/2000, tested in May. Ex runner very reliable. £395. 07980 003317.

NISSAN MICRA INITIA 2006, 56,000 Miles, blue, electric windows, air bag, alarm, MoT, central locking, pas, tax, cd.£900 ono 07812739884

VAUXHALL AGILA 55 Reg 1.2cc, E/W, A/C, PAS, E/M, CD player, 57,400 miles, very good condition. £1,150 o.n.o. 07757 311054.

VAUXHALL CORSA, 3 door, 54 reg, 11 months MoT, new exhaust, engine service, excellent condition, £1,300 ono. 01902 850051.

VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 1.0, 2004(53), silver, 5 door, MoT June 2016, 72,400 miles, excellent condition. £1,250 ono. 07984 207513.

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spares/parts

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9 Local Information

public & legal notices

10 Personals

personal

GENTLEMAN 5FT 5INS

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MALE 48

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general

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES

For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to
Marie Hogg on 01902 713146
or email marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk
(remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

The council proposes to make **The Borough Council of Sandwell (Beakes Road, Smethwick) (20mph Zone) Order 2015 to**: 1) Prohibit any vehicle exceeding a speed of 20mph on Beakes Road between the junction with Stanhope Road and the junction with Bearwood Road. Details are shown on drawing number 39125 S/1. 2) The provisions of this Order shall not apply to:- any vehicle on occasion when it is being used for fire brigade, ambulance or police purposes, if the observance of that provision would be likely to hinder the use of the vehicle for the purpose for which it is being used on that occasion, or to a vehicle being used: (a) for Serious Organised Crime Agency purposes, or (b) for training persons to drive vehicles for use of Serious Organised Crime purposes. However, (except where it is being used for training the person by whom it is being driven), the exemption does not apply in relation to a vehicle unless it is being driven by a person who has been trained in driving vehicles at high speeds. 3) The Order shall not apply to a vehicle if it is a vehicle used for the naval military or air force purposes and that vehicle it is being driven by a person or a member of the armed forces of the Crown on an occasion when:- (a) the person driving the vehicle is a member of the Special Forces as defined in the Road Traffic Exemptions (Special Forces) (Variation and Amendment) Regulations 2011; and (b) the vehicle is being driven:- (i) in response, or for practice in responding, to a national security emergency by a person who has been trained in driving vehicles at high speeds; or (ii) for the purpose of training a person in driving vehicles at high speeds. Full details may be examined at: Sandwell Council House, Freeth Street, Oldbury, West Midlands, B69 3DE during normal office hours. Objections in writing, stating your grounds, to Robin Wear, Group Manager Highways, at Freeth Street address or email to: highways@sandwell.gov.uk by 10/12/15.

SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
Regeneration and Economy
Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)
Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015

I hereby give notice that Sandwell Council has received the following applications under the planning acts which it is required to give public notice for the reason given at the beginning of each group of applications.

This is a major application.

DC/15/58767	ASDA Stores Limited	Asda Hagley Road West Oldbury B68 0PH	Proposed variation of condition 3 of planning permission – DC/13/56299 to allow the continuation of the temporary unrestricted trading hours for a further two years, then future trading hours of 06.00 to 24.00 Monday to Saturday and 10.00 to 17.00 on Sunday.

Members of the public may inspect copies of these applications at Council House, Freeth Street, Oldbury, West Midlands, B69 3DE (between 8.00a.m. and 5.30p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 9.00a.m. and 5.30p.m. Wednesday and 8.00a.m. to 5p.m. Friday) or via the Council's Public Access website (www.sandwell.gov.uk).

Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications can do so via the website, or should write to the Council at the above address within 21 days (and 21 days for Listed Building or Conservation Area consent) of the date of this advertisement quoting the application reference number.

MR NICK BUBALO, Area Director – Regeneration and Economy

star extra TRAVEL

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FREE Standard Network rates apply.

To ***Reply*** to members from your landline call:
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calls cost £1.55 per min plus your phone company's access charge.

Have the adverts 6-digit box no written down and do ***key-it-in promptly*** when asked. Don't forget to leave contact details for replies.

Or ***Text...*** **REPLY26** (leave space) box number (leave space) and then enter your message & send to **80098** eg: **REPLY26** 123456 **hi get in touch...** then send to **80098** Successfully forwarded messages cost £1.50 per message (Max 160 characters). You must exchange 7 messages each before you can swap contact details. Messages may be moderated for your safety and security.

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Women seeking men

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.55 per minute plus your phone company's access charge. Texts cost £1.50 per message received.

LADY, young looking 57, working full-time, very fit and active, looking for a male of similar age for friendship or maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 4444 Box No: 419725**

KATIE 35yrs, slender well educated brunette seeks no strings mutual pleasure with gent 40+ Must be discreet, married or single. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 4294 Box 419673**

CATHY, 42, good looking brunette with a real passion for life, seeking male for happy times, dates, chats, romance and more. Pls call. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420073**

DISCREET man wanted by married lady for no strings fun. I'm called Sarah and am 37yrs. Pls call, ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 4299 Box 418167**

MAGGIE, 72 yrs young, good sense of humour, well presented, WLTM kind, sincere chappie to share coffee and a chat. **Text only to Mailbox no: 5310040**

CHRISTINA, curvy beauty, 27yrs, own home, very very adventurous seeks no strings fun and frolics. **Tel No: 0906 515 4293 Box 410127**

LOUISE 35, dark hair, blue eyes, attractive ex air hostess, looking for fun times with older male for romantic nights in and more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420043**

MAUREEN, discreet sensual lady, 42yrs seeks daytime fun at her home. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 4275 Box: 405297**

39 yr old independent single Mom, knows the benefit of having a good man in the picture. **Text only to Mailbox no: 5084796**

ATTRACTIVE solvent business woman, 36yrs, seeks discreet gent any age for no strings discreet fun. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 4693 Box 419701**

FRANCES, 45, busty female, loves nights in/out, seeking uncomplicated male who can occupy my free time for quality companionship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420003**

LOUISE, pretty hairdresser, works long hours, finds it hard to meet a boyfriend, 34yrs, own flat. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4192572**

FEMALE, seeks fun loving male who likes a drink and a laugh, to enjoy erotic experiences with a curvy brunette. Discretion guaranteed. **Text only to Mailbox no: 5079311**

JENNI, single mum seeks single dad, own home, can accommodate and loves spoiling her man. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4115108**

MARY, pretty, friendly, lots of fun, lives in Kidderminster, loves the theatre, opera, ballet, WLTM a lovely, charming, funny, genuine guy, 30s, to settle down with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419883**

FEMALE fun brunette, attractive, 26, seeking male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416287**

LOU, 45, lives in Shrewsbury, WLTM a lady between 42-49 with blue eyes, must be kind, caring and funny to mend my broken heart, someone who likes to curl up on the sofa for cozy nights in. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419855**

FREYA 24yr old single mum, looking for male for free time frolics, call me if you're interested, it could be fun! **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419851**

LISA 38 slim attractive blonde, looking for a man who will appreciate a feminine, fashionable, fun, romantic sensual woman with a mind of her own. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419839**

SARAH 38, slim, nice looking, sensual, tactile, no ties, WLTM kind, loving male to enjoy affectionate relationship. Any age/looks. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419821**

PAT 66, attractive, N/S, likes reading, nights out, seeks gent for friendship, days out and more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418277**

68YR old widow, attractive, seeks sincere, N/S male, likes reading, meals out and walks. West Midlands. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414773**

JULIA 47, looking for genuine, reasonably attractive male friend, may to lead to more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419695**

LADY Penelope seeks her very own Parker (47-58) to go on a voyage of discovery and romance. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4550237**

BLACK lady seeks white male over 60, any location, for friendship and hopefully a lot more. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4256384**

CHARLENE, 24, petite curvy young blonde seeks similar cheeky, fun loving guy for lots of fun and loving. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419597**

JOANNA, 36, petite, auburn haired female, lovely figure seeks loving older male for fun nights out and cosy nights in. Maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419595**

SHARON 32, attractive black single mum of one, very tactile and passionate, WLTM male 45-65yrs for fun meets. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419579**

MARIE, 43, fun blue-eyed brunette, fit and active, seeks similar male to have a laugh with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419417**

KAREN 50, widow, likes swimming, horse riding, keep fit, clay pigeon shooting, GSOH, N/S, non drinker, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415211**

CURVY, farm girl at heart, 32, 5ft 10, single mum, caring, kind, shy, likes walks, cooking WLTM tactile male farmer for LTR. **Text only to Mailbox no: 5067001**

FEMALE medium build, blonde hair, 5ft 5ins, seeks male, 50-58, GSOH, loving, caring and understanding. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415429**

WIDOW 50, blonde hair, GSOH, 5ft 5ins, slim, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415767**

MARIE, 43, fun blue-eyed brunette, fit and active, seeks similar male to have a laugh with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419417**

FEMALE 50's, 5ft 5ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, seeks gent with GSOH, loving, caring and understanding. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415871**

BLUE eyed female, blonde hair, slim, GSOH, loving, caring, understanding, seeking similar male, 55-55. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416989**

AMANDA, 36, tall, slim, busty brunette seeks man, any age, any area, for discreet daytime fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418117**

CAROL Ann, sensitive slim brunette very romantic seeks tall handsome male for fun, friendship and lots of TLC. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419385**

KIRSTEN, 36, attractive, blonde and very bored, seeking open-minded decent male for fun/friendship, 40-60yrs. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419383**

VAL 41, pretty, cuddly, flirty, seeks similar fun loving male for an uncomplicated no strings relationship. Age/looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416601**

FEMALE fun brunette, attractive, 26, seeking male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416287**

SUSANNAH, 48, curvy female, romantic, warm and cuddly, seeks similar kind male for a loving relationship with lots of cuddles and kisses. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417341**

MID naughty forties female looking fun, thrills and discreet meets, give me a call, you wont be disappointed. Any age with own accommodation. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409109**

DIVORCED female, attractive, sensual by nature, OHAC, bored with own company, looking to make life a little more exciting with likeminded man. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419219**

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.55 per minute plus your phone company's access charge. Texts cost £1.50 per message received.

JANE, 47, voluptuous female, long hair, brown eyes, generous curves, would love to spend cosy nights in with that special male. Age/looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417985**

LINDA, 47, brown-eyed blonde, caring, loving and honest, many interests, seeks genuine male to share lonely evenings with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417211**

JOYCE, affectionate sensitive widow, bit of a romantic, seeks loving male for lots of TLC. Looks unimportant, it's what's in the heart that matters. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419143**

DEBBIE, 29, looking for mature professional fun guy, 40-50 to spend good times with. Call me, you have nothing to lose. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419075**

CAROL 49, attractive, green eyed blonde, honest warm hearted, n/s with GSOH likes cinema, music, walking, meals out and travel seeking similar male. **Text only to Mailbox No: 4283683**

VIRGINIA, outgoing social female, 24, tall slim and attractive, looking for fun times, maybe more. Can accommodate/travel. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418845**

HEATHER, well travelled solvent brunette looking to share a large glass of wine and whatever follows with affectionate man friend. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419031**

PAULINE, 49yrs, very attractive, curvy divorcee, affectionate and fun, seeks laid back, sincere male for an uncomplicated, loving relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418925**

LADY young at heart, nice eyes, seeks man 42-52 with good sense of humour. **Text only to Mailbox No: 4881572**

VIRGINIA, outgoing social female, 24, tall slim and attractive, looking for fun times, maybe more. Can accommodate/travel. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418845**

LOOKING for the right chemistry with country loving gent who like me is looking for some extra fun in their life. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418843**

LYN, 43, divorced very lonely single mum, young looking, slim, attractive, WLTM similar male for companionship. Age/looks/Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418795**

SOPHIA very sensual black lady looking to acquire a new distraction with lots of adult fun thrown in for good measure. Race/age/status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413399**

JAN 35yr old blue eyed blonde, outgoing, friendly, WLTM passionate guy to share good wine, good conversation, flirting and fun times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418609**

ATTRACTIVE professional lady, widow, 50's, likes walks, sight seeing, theatre, meals out, seeks genuine, professional gent, 5ft 9ins plus to make life more enjoyable. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418615**

JAN 35yr old blue eyed blonde, outgoing, friendly, WLTM passionate guy to share good wine, good conversation, flirting and fun times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418609**

SENSUAL tactile, attractive female, long blonde hair, blue eyes, loves travel, wining/dining, WLTM genuine male for mutual companionship. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418587**

BROKEN hearted lady 39 seeks loving male to mend heart age 39/40. **Text only to Mailbox No: 4869116**

KAY, very young 45, fit and active, no ties, seeks similar young at heart, fun male for fun meets. Age/Status/looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418577**

VIVACIOUS strawberry blonde who knows just what she wants, looking for caring male for spontaneous fun relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418445**

WENDY, 40, slim, fit, bubbly female looking to meet a tall, slim, fit, mature male who thinks he can keep up. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418369**

JO 55, curvy redhead, loves eating out, theatre, travel, looking for middle-aged prince charming to sweep me off my feet. **Text only to Mailbox No: 4464905**

GENUINE lady looking for genuine male, age 58-60, for friendship and to have a laugh with. So if that's you would love to hear from you. **Text only to Mailbox No: 4537136**

PAT 66, attractive, N/S, likes reading, nights out, seeks gent for friendship, days out and more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418277**

68YR old widow, attractive, seeks sincere, N/S male, likes reading, meals out and walks. West Midlands. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414773**

WENDY, 40, slim, fit, bubbly female looking to meet a tall, slim, fit, mature male who thinks he can keep up. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418369**

EILEEN, slim green eyed brunette likes meals out and cosy nights in, seeks tall male who would make her laugh and brighten up her day. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418347**

FEMALE fun brunette, attractive, 26, seeking male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416287**

FEMALE seeking gent 55-70, down to earth, nice and intelligent who knows how to treat a lady. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417195**

YOUNG early 40's female, GSOH, kind, caring, considerate, seeks male for friendship, possible romance. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410847**

FEMALE, 50, short blond hair, blue eyes, 5ft 10, slim build, looking for a man 50- 55 with salt and pepper hair and GSOH. **Text only to Mailbox No: 4435776**

HEATHER, 34, single very attractive brunette, sensual and interesting, looking to add to life's experiences and adventures with professional male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418193**

JACKIE lonely and looking for male company, 48-65. Need a bit of love and affection? Then I'm your girl. call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418169**

JAN, 47, once bitten twice shy! Looking for non complicated fun times. Attractive, discreet, OHAC, you won't be disappointed. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418089**

EMMA, 43, easygoing female looking to broaden her horizons, WLTM similar male for romantic liaisons. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418009**

SHARON, 48, tall slim attractive, live alone with no ties, love romanticising and WLTM man for good times together, maybe more. Any age. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417751**

MATURE male, 50, medium-build, varied interests, seeks true Christian female, 35-45, who enjoys evenings in and dining out, for friendship or possibly more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419283**

SINGLE mom, 40yrs, small, not skinny WLTM single dad aged 39 to 45. **Text only to Mailbox No: 4295299**

FEMALE, 36, looking for a genuine guy to wine and dine me with lots of laughter and fun times. **Text only to Mailbox No: 4758012**

JULIE, attractive early 40's brunette, size 10, varied interests, WLTM male for fun times, good conversations, spoiling and maybe more. status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418007**

TRACY, slim attractive cheerful brunette, enjoys aromatherapy/massage, looking for male who appreciates a feminine, sensual lady. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417787**

BOSTON female 56 loyal, intelligent, loves history seeks dependable humorous male for friendship. **Text only to Mailbox No: 4751421**

TRACY, slim attractive cheerful brunette, enjoys aromatherapy/massage, looking for male who appreciates a feminine, sensual lady. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417787**

THEA, 36, extrovert brunette, curly hair, rugby fan, WLTM genuine male who will accept her as she is. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417763**

ATTRACTIVE kind, caring, single lady, loves animals, WLTM uniformed office for genuine, sincere relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417623**

ELLEN 45, attractive, with statuesque curvy figure, looking for an uncomplicated relationship with understanding male friend. Call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417663**

Men seeking women

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.55 per minute plus your phone company's access charge. Texts cost £1.50 per message received.

DARREN, 44, slim build, dark brown hair, green eyes, seeks genuine female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418809**

MICHAEL, school teacher, very shy and lonely, 42yrs, own home, car, seeks genuine caring lady. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4156561**

STEVE 39, 5ft 9ins, medium build, likes walks, seeks female, slim-medium build, single mum welcome. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396709**

6FT well built guy, nicely groomed looking for fun intimate nights or day with slim/medium build attractive lady 35-55. **Text only to Mailbox no: 5132460**

ALAN, 56 year old builder, muscular build, five foot ten, fit, likes the gym, pubs, clubs and days out, seeks female with similar interests. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419975**

ATTRACTIVE, fit, sporty, tactile, youthful black male seek relationship with lady. N/S. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4851641**

WIDOWER, quiet, easygoing, slim, 5ft 7 tall, smart, varied interests, seeks slimish lady, 50 to 65 yrs for caring relationship. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4906469**

TIM, easygoing honest male, discreet, unihibited, seeks similar non-conformist averagely attractive, N/S female up to 65. Notts. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 375065**

SUBMISSIVE 44year old WLTM dominant female 25-30 years who enjoys role play with friendship and maybe possible relationship. **Text only to Mailbox no: 5084114**

MARK 40, 5ft 9ins, brown hair/eyes, attractive, good looking, OHAC/business, likes walks, day trips, cinema, seeks similar female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 348239**

PROFESSIONAL male, 41, own business, likes to enjoy life, clubs, pubs, cinema, gym, seeks similar female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 360283**

MALE 45yrs old, self-employed motor trader/mechanic, medium build, green eyes, average looks. I am a nice genuine and honest person looking for similar lady to share a honest permanent relationship and happy times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418709**

GENT 55, slightly mad, but not bad, will make you glad you answered his ad! **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408973**

MIKE late 60's fit, active, genuine and generous, very passive seeks assertive lady any age / looks for mutual benefits. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4747481**

STOCKY, bold, unhappily married man, seeks similar very discreet female for exciting rendezvous. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4757315**

ATTRACTIVE tall black male would like to meet female for day time fun and discreet meetings, any age or location. **Text only to Mailbox no: 5077442**

MATURE male, 50, medium-build, varied interests, seeks true Christian female, 35-45, who enjoys evenings in and dining out, for friendship or possibly more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419283**

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GENTLEMAN, 57, slightly mad but not bad, who will make you ever so glad that you answered his ad! **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419307**

ADVENTUROUS 35yr old, slim, dark hair, likes music, cycling and photography, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417235**

JAMES GSOH, likes theatre, meals out, socialising, seeking easy going female, 35-55. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417469**

PETE 47, enjoys walking, meals out, seeks female, age/looks/status unimportant, with similar interests for adult fun text only. **Text only to Mailbox no: 5063152**

MALE 60s WLTM genuine fun lady, 50/60s nights in or out, likes swimming, walks, music, good food etc for friendship or more. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4852727**

TIM, easygoing honest male, discreet, uninhibited, seeks similar non-conformist averagely attractive, N/S female up to 65. Notts. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 375065**

PAUL 50yrs, Birmingham, with own house and own car, I have a good sense of humour and I like going out, I'm looking for the right girl for friendship/relationship. Call me when you can. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418465**

LEE, 50, seeking an Asian female for discreet fun and maybe more. Dudley area. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419401**

ANDREW 53, widower, honest, genuine, caring, tactile, GSOH. Kidderminster based, hoping to love again with a decent loving lady. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4911450**

45 year old male with varied interests WLTM female 35 to 55 for fun and friendship and hopefully more. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4215562**

COLIN 48, kind loving, seeks large cuddly lady 45 to 60 for LTR, love, romance, also like cuddles, kisses and holding hands. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4906088**

TOM, a young 59 active attractive male, 5ft8, slimmish & fit with decent looks & friendly nature, many interests, looking for lady similar age. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4926340**

GENTLEMAN, 57, slightly mad but not bad, who will make you ever so glad that you answered his ad! **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419307**

GENUINE caring male, seeks similar female for friendship or possibly more. Aged between 25-39. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4916049**

STEVE young 40, looking for uncomplicated adult fun with any age race female ACA. **Text only to Mailbox No: 4880449**

ANDY 53, widower, honest, genuine, caring, happy tactile, hoping to find love again with a decent loving lady. Kidderminster. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4911450**

TACTILE, romantic guy, height 5ft 6in, loves good food and drinking in or out, dancing, music, conversation and cuddles. Ready for love. **Text only to Mailbox No: 4893329**

TALL attractive professional male, 50, GSOH, looking for some fun, adventure and sparkle. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418951**

MALE seeks affectionate, tactile, no drama, down to earth woman for nights in/out and loads of cuddles. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418695**

COLIN, 48, seeks large cuddly lady between 45-55 for LTR, must like hugs, kisses, cuddles and holding hands. **Text only to Mailbox No: 4906088**

MALE 63, N/S, GSOH, genuine, caring, likes music, travel, meals out, casual drink, seeks female, 50-70 for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416997**

ADVENTUROUS 35yr old, slim, dark hair, likes music, cycling and photography, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417235**

MALE, 63, caring, easygoing, N/S seeks female 50-70 for friendship and romance. Looks unimportant. Likes occasional drink, eating in/out, cinema and driving. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418893**

COLIN 61, lorry driver, 5'10", blue eyes, kind hearted, romantic, hobbies include growing fuchsia's for showing and I have a vintage tractor that I play with from time to time. Looking for similar who's up for a lot of fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418463**

MALE 63, N/S, honest, GSOH, car owner, seeks female, 55-70 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416817**

SEAN 47, 5ft 8ins, average looks, seeking genuine, honest, caring female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413945**

Men seeking men

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.55 per minute plus your phone company's access charge. Texts cost £1.50 per message received.

BI male would like to meet same. 60 to 80 yrs. Must be able to accommodate. Coventry or Birmingham. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4931168**

TALL male 57, seeks older male 60 to 80 for adult fun. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4347071**

TOM young 59 attractive male, decent looking, fit, slimmish, good company & fun loving with many interests, seeking similar male. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4926340**

BI male WLTM same for weekend fun, 60 to 70 years old. Must be able to accommodate. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4931168**

CROSSDRESSER, 50, seeking crossdresser of similar age or older for discreet adult fun in south glos area. **Text only to Mailbox No: 4878545**

Women seeking Women

LONELY mother seeks female friends for enlivening/enlightening coffee chats, likes countryside animals etc. **Text only to Mailbox No: 4860241**

ATTRACTIVE full figure bi lady 58 seeks female of similar age for fun times. Cotswold area. **Text only to Mailbox No: 4636475**

36YR attractive black curvy female seeking boyish female local for relationship. **Text only to Mailbox No: 4483526**

Friends

LUKE 60's, seeking young Asian friend, 20-30's to socialise with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414841**

MODERN young at heart lonely lady, 70's, likes trips out, holidays, seeking similar lady for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410215**

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Character all of its own

By John Griffiths

Looks often deceive when it comes to the automotive world, but not when it comes to the huge 'shoulders' of the latest special edition Moto Gruzzi Griso.

These shoulders, bursting out from under the petrol tank on either side, are the hefty cylinders of the Guzzi's trademark transverse V-twin.

The much-improved and modernised 1,200cc unit is the most powerful engine ever produced under the legendary Italian name.

With 110bhp and 108Nm of torque, it's also up there with the most powerful of the air-cooled genre.

Open the throttle and you know the Griso's muscular looks aren't 'all show, no go': it feels like riding a charging rhino.

It's a handsome piece of Italian architecture in its black and silver trim like 007 in a dinner suit – but ready for action and underneath a bit of a brute, too.

The £10,935 machine is as solidly built as its looks suggest, with huge exhausts which curl artistically around the bike and into the uniquely styled two into one exhaust at the rear.

As the manifolds swing around to the left on the right is an oil cooler radiator which strangely seems to work as a piece of asymmetric art.

While it has somewhat classical looks, it's contrasting design elements are part of its appeal – from the big, round headlight at the front to the thoroughly thoroughly modern high intensity LED tail lights.

The seat height is a fairly average 800mm, with the foot pegs set high, and slightly back, in racing style. T

hat allows the rider to easily change position on the move but also supports a natural, leaning forward position to the new and wider bars.

Start the engine and the Guzzi is full over character. Blip the throttle and the torque from that big transverse twin twists underneath you like a live animal, while at slow speeds it seems you can feel every ignition stroke, like a beating heart.

Once the speedo starts to climb, it all smooths out and you can enjoy the satisfying exhaust growl.

Running

Not that you'll often need or want to explore the higher reaches of the rev range towards that 7,500rpm peak power point. Most of the time you're running at half that with a little movement of the throttle enough to induce a surge of acceleration, no matter what gear you're in.

Between overtaking surges it's a big, comfortable cruiser, albeit one with sharper handling than the low rider or bagger style machine.

Theoretical top speed is 140mph, but in practice that is more likely to be limited by the physical demands on the rider as the air pressure builds, as with other 'naked' bikes.

But the Griso was constructed to perform as a sports machine, with a strong and stiff high tensile steel frame and a single-sided aluminium swingarm which doubles as the shaft drive housing.

It turns in rapidly and the adjustable suspension provides a reassuringly neutral reaction through corners.

At times capable of almost brutal power, at others a relaxed cruiser.

The dampers smooth out the bumpy bits, too.

Braking also comes from the sports world with a powerful system from Brembo, the Formula One experts, with 'wave' style discs for maximum heat dispersion.

This new Griso, especially in its new special edition colours, is something different. Stylish in a interesting combination of old and new. At times capable of almost brutal power, at others a relaxed cruiser – all with a bit of a raw edge imparted by its unique transverse V-twin.

It's an individual's machine, with a character all of its own.

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Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range (excl. Ampera): Urban: 12.7 (22.3) - 76.3 (3.7), Extra-urban: 23.9 (11.8) - 94.2 (3.0), Combined: 18.0 (15.7) - 88.3 (3.2). CO_2 emissions: 373 - 85g/km.#

*£2,000 Scrappage Allowance towards a new car is offered on condition that the traded-in car has been registered in your name as the owner for at least 90 days and the registration document is in your name and address. Offer available to private individuals and small businesses 1-24 units (purchase only). All other sales categories are excluded. Offer applies to selected new vehicles ordered between 8 October 2015 and 15 December 2015. ^Excludes VIVA, ADAM JAM, New Corsa Sting, New Corsa Sting R. Ts&Cs apply. Participating Retailers only. UK supplied vehicles only. #Official EU-regulated test data are provided for comparison purposes and actual performance will depend on driving style, road conditions and other non-technical factors.

Ford sees sales of of 65 plate exceed 100,000

By Sharon Walters

UK market leader Ford recorded 101,598 65-plate registrations during September and October, as it stretched its sales leads in total vehicle, car and commercial vehicles. Ford commercial vehicle (CV) sales are more than double those of its nearest rival.

According to the official October sales figures from the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT):

- Ford is the UK market leader in total vehicle, car and CV sales Fiesta is UK best-seller; Transit Custom and Transit first and second in CV sales
- Transit range is second in UK total vehicle sales
- Ford's car sales lead increased 20 per cent, compared with October 2014
- Ford has five models in the UK Top 20 – Fiesta (1st), Focus (4th), Transit Custom (9th), Transit (16th) and Kuga (18th)

Andy Barratt, Ford of Britain chairman and managing director, said: "Ford is building on the strength of its core models in the UK market, while stretching into new segments with models such as Mustang, Mondeo Vignale and Ford Edge.

Exceeding

"Fiesta is in its seventh year as the UK market leader, while the success of our extended Ford CV family is demonstrated by Transit range sales exceeding those of any car – apart from Fiesta.

"Our strong results are a direct result of the wider range of these exciting new models – delivered through our dealer partners, who make up the strongest network in the UK."

The official figures released by the SMMT today show that total car sales in October were down 1.1 per cent to 177,664 units, compared with October 2014.

Ford car sales were 22,081, 6,190 registrations ahead of its nearest rival. For the year to date (end October) total UK car sales were 2,274,550, up 6.4 per cent compared with the same period in 2014. Ford car sales for this period were 290,409, some 62,418 registrations ahead of its nearest rival.

Ford is also the clear leader in retail car sales, which most accurately reflect the preferences of private buyers.

For October, Ford's retail car sales beat a shrinking retail market and increased 8.2 per cent, compared with October 2014. At 13.1 per cent, Ford's retail car sales share was 5.1 percentage points ahead of its nearest rival, and for the year to date, Ford's retail car sales share was 12.3 per cent, a lead of 4.2 percentage points.

Significant

The Ford Fiesta is the UK's top seller and in October it recorded 8,577 registrations, 3,516 ahead of its nearest rival. With total registrations of 116,631 for the year to date, the Ford Fiesta is the UK best seller by a significant margin – 38,735 sales and 1.7 percentage points of market share ahead of its nearest competitor.

Ford's broad customer appeal across its car range is demonstrated by Fiesta, B-MAX, Focus, C-MAX, Kuga and Galaxy all occupying top three places in their respective market segments.

Ford Kuga sales are at the highest level since it was launched with October registrations of 2,343, up 12 per cent, compared with October 2014, and sales for the year to date of 27,948, up 33.1 per cent, compared with the same period in 2014.

UK commercial vehicle sales in October were down 3.6 per cent at 34,228, compared with October 2014. At 8,344, total sales of Ford CVs were up 10.9 per cent, compared with October 2014.

For the year to date total UK CV sales were up 16.3 per cent at 360,168, compared with the same period in 2014.

Total sales of Ford CVs for the year to date were up 22.3 per cent at 89,177, compared with 2014.

Ford light commercials sales for the year to date were up from 14,589 to 19,539, compared with the same period in 2014 and Ford medium commercials sales for the year to date were up from 58,316 to 69,638, compared with 2014.

The full availability of Ford's extended CV family has helped deliver this strong sales momentum. Fiesta Van, Transit Connect, Transit Custom, Transit and Ranger all lead their respective market segments.

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Kangoo van range now improved and updated

The Renault Kangoo Van range has been upgraded and improved, making the small business vehicle an ideal proposition for business customers. The practical, versatile and stylish LCV offers customers minimal purchase and operating costs as well as new trim levels and standard equipment.

The improvements mean that there is now substantial standard specification across the Kangoo Van range with every trim level receiving DAB radio with Bluetooth, USB and AUX ports as standard.

Every Kangoo Van and Kangoo Van Z.E. panel van will now have a full steel bulkhead separating the passenger and cargo compartments, providing greater safety for occupants in the event of an accident whilst also ensuring that loads are securely located. In Crew Van Cab models, the bulkhead is a multi-positional feature giving owners the flexibility to vary passenger and cargo space.

The new range now includes Business and Business+ trim levels, aligning with the Renault Trafic and Renault Master. Standard equipment also includes ECO mode, load area lighting, roof bar fixings, electronic stability control with hill start assist and Grip Xtend, electric front windows, Titanium upholstery, electric variable power steering, a front 12-volt power socket, grey side protection moulds, anti-lock brakes with electronic brake force distribution, a driver's airbag a height-adjustable driver's seat, deadlocks, the Renault anti-intruder device and remote central locking.

On top of the above standard equipment, the Kangoo Van Z.E. also comes with a wall-mounted charging cable, a recharging socket, Z.E. onboard computer, Z.E. Voice cabin pre-heating/pre-cooling and low rolling resistance tyres.

All-new features specific to the Kangoo Maxi Crew Van and Maxi Crew Van Cab include left and right side sliding doors, interior side panel and an extra row of three folding passenger seats split one-third/two-thirds.

Further new features on Business+ models include electrically operated folding door mirrors, one-touch descending electric front windows, a centre console with armrest, an overhead parcel shelf, rubber flooring in the load area, manual air conditioning, body-coloured front bumper and rear parking sensors.

Payload

Options across the range include metallic paint, additional load anchorage points, increased payload of 800kg, front passenger and lateral airbags, swivelling bulkhead with folding passenger seat, cruise control with speed limiter, automatic headlights and wipers, a folding front passenger seat and the Renault R-Link multimedia and navigation system.

The upgrades mean there are now 32 variants, all powered by highly efficient dCi units, available as panel or crew vans. The same two body styles are offered with the four Z.E. models. Business trim is the entry point to the range regardless of power unit, while dCi versions also offer a higher-specification Business+ grade.

There are also two ML20 models, powered by the dCi 90 ENERGY engine, with an increased payload of 800kg instead of the standard 650kg.

Alongside the newly-standard DAB radio with Bluetooth, USB and AUX ports, the Kangoo van range can also be ordered with or without a CD player.

All-electric versions now receive Renault Z.E. Voice as standard, which alerts pedestrians or cyclists to the vehicle's approach when travelling below 18mph.

Combustion engine and Z.E. panel vans are available with a choice of two different wheelbases, load bay lengths and cargo capacities. The standard version has a 2,697mm wheelbase, a load bay which can be stretched from 1,731 to 2,502mm and a 3m3 cargo area, while for Maxi models the corresponding figures are 3,081mm, 2,115 to 2,886mm and 4.0 to 4.6m3. All crew vans come in Maxi format, with the option of Maxi Cab specification adding the multi-positional bulkhead as standard.

A year ahead of the requirement for EU6 engines, Renault has demonstrated its technological leadership by offering seven versions of the new Kangoo with dCi engines which already meet the new emissions standard. These dCi 75, dCi 90 and dCi 110 ENERGY units provide lower NOx emissions achieved by the addition of a NOx trap in the exhaust system, with no requirement for further additives. This enables them to achieve maximum performance and efficiency.

Renault's 1.5-litre dCi turbodiesel engines are renowned for their smooth yet strong performance, impressive refinement and low fuel consumption and emissions. Regardless of body style or vehicle length, fuel economy is more than 60mpg in the NEDC combined cycle for all but five versions, and even these achieve 56.5mpg, while CO2 emissions are 130g/km or less, and as low as 110g/km with six variants. By opting for a Kangoo Van Z.E., owners will reduce emissions to zero whilst driving, with minimal energy consumption.

Prices for dCi models start at £13,200 plus VAT, while battery-hire Z.E. versions are available from £12,994 plus VAT, or £16,161.15 plus VAT for full purchase. Z.E. prices are after the Government's Plug-in Car Grant (PiCG).

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Polestar upgrades for Volvo XC90 SUV

By Sharon Walters

Volvo Car UK is enhancing the performance of its award-winning XC90 with a series of Polestar-developed upgrades. This is the first time that Polestar, Volvo's performance brand, has focused its attention on the new seven-seat SUV.

Known as Polestar Performance Optimisation, the upgrades improve the power and torque figures of both the D5 diesel and T6 petrol Drive-E engines, particularly at medium revs where it's most effective.

They also make the accelerator responses even quicker, and alter the settings of the automatic gearbox to provide faster gearchanges and prevent gearshifts during rapid cornering, which could unsettle the car. These quicker and more precise responses to driver commands not only make the driving experience more dynamic, they ensure the car responds predictably during high-speed driving.

The upgrades have been developed and designed by the engineers of Polestar and the racing drivers of Polestar Cyan Racing, the official motorsport partner to Polestar.

Thed Björk, reigning Scandinavian Touring Car Championship (STCC) champion and Polestar Cyan Racing driver, said: "The new Polestar optimisation is about making the car more dynamic and responsive to drive.

"We use the same philosophy as when optimising our race cars, to create a completely balanced package. And this is exactly what we have focussed on with the new-generation optimisations for Volvo cars: powertrain optimisation for real-life driving."

Increased

The maximum output of the D5 Drive-E engine is increased to 233 hp and 500 Nm of torque (up from 225 hp and 470 Nm), while the T6 Drive-E is boosted to 334 hp and 440 Nm (from 320 hp and 400 Nm).

Polestar Performance Optimisations have also been released for the D4 diesel and T5 petrol Drive-E engines in other Volvo models.

Like the upgrades to the D5 and T6 engines in the XC90, the aim is to boost medium-rev performance and to make the car's entire drivetrain react more quickly and accurately to driver commands.

With the Polestar Performance Optimisation, the D4 Drive-E offers 200 hp and 440 Nm (up from 190 hp and 400 Nm), while the output of the T5 Drive-E is raised to 253 hp and 400 Nm (from 245 hp and 350 Nm).

The D4 Drive-E upgrades are available in the S60, V40, V40 Cross Country, V60 and XC60, and the T5 Drive-E enhancements are offered in the V40 and V40 Cross Country.

The price of the D4, D5*, T5 and T6 Polestar upgrades is £835, including VAT and fitting.

The work can be carried out at any authorised Volvo dealer, and should take about 30 minutes to complete.

Nick Connor, Managing Director of Volvo Car UK, said: "These new Polestar Performance Optimisations make our cars and Drive-E engines even more dynamic and desirable. The combination of increased power and torque – especially at medium revs – and the changes to make the entire drivetrain more responsive ensure that owners will really feel the difference these optimisations make."

Finally, until the end of December 2015, all model-year 2005 to model-year 2015 all-wheel-drive Volvos can be upgraded with the Polestar Performance Optimisation at the discounted price of £620, saving £215.

The Polestar upgrades do not affect the certified emissions and fuel consumption figures, service intervals or Volvo warranty cover.

For more information on the Volvo range, Drive-E engines and Polestar, please visit the website: www.volvocars.com/uk

Magnificent MX-5 now even better

By John Griffiths

Cars come and go but some remain: they become legends in their own lifetime (and in some cases for long afterwards).

Think Mini, E-Type, Land Rover and the subject of this test, the latest, fourth generation Mazda MX-5.

For decades even the weather couldn't put a damper on the British love affair with roadsters: not exotic and expensive supercars but honest two seaters which offer performance with the opportunity for wind in your hair motoring where ownership is at least within many people's grasp.

The new version, priced from £18,310, is true to the MX-5 philosophy and, with the application of new technology and construction methods, it's better than ever. It has two new, more efficient engines and is a whole 100kg lighter than its predecessor – a precursor for improved performance and fuel economy, lower emissions and sharper handling.

One of the things I like about the MX-5 is that when Mazda came up with the concept in the late 1980s it was actually looking back, not forward (brave, that). The idea of a front engined, rear wheel drive and relatively simple roadster was inspired by past greats such as the Triumph Spitfire.

At that time there was one real competitor, the Alfa Romeo Spider, as other car makers (and buyers) had been seduced away from the genre by the Gti phenomenon. The MX-5 soon made them think again, with the likes of the MGF, Toyota MR2 and Porsche Boxster hitting the showrooms.

The new car's sleek, purposeful shape looks as if it might have been the proud product of an Italian design house, and conceals its secrets well. It's slightly smaller footprint disguises the fact that it retains the same amount of space for passengers and luggage as its predecessor.

It's also shed a lot of weight as part of Mazda's 'SKYACTIV' principles which now feature in every one of its new cars, but is especially significant in a sports model.

Efficiency

It's lighter, it's stronger and more rigid thanks to the use of new materials and methods, while SKYACTIV also means re-engineering engines and gearboxes for improved efficiency.

There are two engine options, both petrol, of 1,5 and 2.0 litre capacity mated to really slick, short throw six-speed gearboxes.

The 1.5 has 131PS, boasting a 0 to 62mph time of 8.3 seconds, an official fuel average of 47.1mpg and a 139g/km CO2 rating. For comparison the two litre unit's vital statistics are 7.3 seconds, 40.9mpg and 161g/km.

Both are very responsive, with convincing in-gear acceleration when an overtaking opportunity arises, although clearly the bigger block has the edge.

Both cars are lower than their predecessor, but the 2.0 litre also has uprated sports suspension with Bilstein dampers which given it an edge in handling and response, too.

The driving experience is little short of superb. The MX-5's interior is beautifully designed, with driver and passenger in well-shaped, supportive seats either side of the transmission which places gear stick and handbrake in easy grasp.

As well as weight loss and a stiffer body, Mazda's engineers have worked hard on making the car not only handle even better, but more fun to drive.

The steering rack is even quicker, providing sharp responses and driver feel which is, at first sight, surprising as they've gone for an electromechanical system for the first time. The front wheel castor angle is increased to improve resistance to understeer while the electronic stability and traction control systems calm any tendency to wayward behaviour at the other end

For many, there's nothing quite like the feel you get with rear wheel drive, and a perfect 50:50 front to rear weight distribution as in the MX-5. It's hard to explain, but you don't have to be a boy racer with a right foot flat to the floor to enjoy, and feel rewarded, as you thread the MX-5 along winding B-roads.

To someone with almost 50 years of driving behind him, it brings back the sheer pleasure of just driving.

The new MX-5 retains the manually retractable fabric roof which most people will be able to open/close without leaving the driving seat.

All versions have LED headlights and features such as alloy wheels electric windows and (heated) door mirrors, a stereo radio/CD player with connectivity package and a leather stearing wheel.

Prices start at £18,495 for the 1.5 litre and £20,095 for the 2.0 litre model and there are three trim levels for each. Insurance groups range from 26E to 29E and they all come with a three years or 60,000 mile warranty.

The MX-5 has been a hit from the word go, and this fourth generation model is no exception. British dealers took more than 1,000 advance orders before it officially went on sale and it has also chalked up a 'Cabriolet of the Year' title.

Great styling, competent performance, the promise of top down driving and sensible running costs are big attractions for car buyers and the MX-5 gives them the full package. Mazda has stuck to its principles which saw the first model back in 1989 – lightweight, fun and affordable – but with the benefit of 25 years of improvements under its belt.

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Fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the new Kia cee'd 'GT-Line' 1.0 ecoTurbo: Urban 45.6 (6.2), Extra Urban 67.3 (4.2), Combined 57.6 (4.9). CO_2 emissions are 115 g/km; for the Venga 1.6 Automatic '3' Spec (6 Speed) Urban 32.8 (8.6), Extra Urban 54.3 (5.2), Combined 43.4 (6.5). CO_2 emissions are 150 g/km.

MPG figures are official EU test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results. Picture for illustration only.

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Sandwell Chronicle Thursday, November 19, 2015

Own slice of history with the latest Jag

By Matt Kimberley

Here is a future piece of British automotive history. It's the first time an Ian Callum-designed Jaguar has replaced an Ian Callum-designed Jaguar, and it marks the next step for the car that brought about the most significant brand revolution of modern times.

It's a few millimetres shorter than before, but the wheelbase of the new aluminium construction is longer. This gives more space for passengers to enjoy the high-spec new cabin and, of course, the signature Jaguar rotating air vents.

Jaguar isn't going to win any prizes for originality, having largely just transplanted the family face from the XJ and XE straight onto the new car. It's sweetly proportioned and carries its bulk very well – a neat trick to pull when you can balance size and grace, and the XF does it better than any of its rivals.

In dear old Britain, we're going to be biased on the image front. It's a British car built on these shores and, of course, we want to love it.

The thing is, the product makes itself very easy to love, regardless of where you're from.

An extra 27mm of headroom for rear passengers could be much appreciated by some owners, despite the roof's peak point resting 3mm lower than the old XF's. A 540-litre boot with a wider aperture is a winner, beating each of the German rivals.

Throttle

The obvious black mark against the XF is that the interior materials, at least on our test cars. They are so nice that even taking a coffee into it is taking a risk, so if your kids always seem to find a way of making liquid messes, think twice or invest in a very good upholstery cleaner.

Buy the 3.0-litre diesel. It's absolutely immense, pulling like a train at the slightest tickle of the throttle and recording a laughable 1,300rpm at 70mph for epic long-leggedness (in top gear, 2,000rpm doesn't arrive until 110mph).

Whether you're on the passive standard suspension or the adaptive, adjustable setup, the XF shows mighty composure through corners, and rides well on the 20-inch wheels fitted to the test cars.

You can't escape the outright weight, despite the savings versus the outgoing model. It's too close to call between this and a BMW 535d without a back-to-back drive. Dynamically, the Jag is excellent.

The eco-friendly 2.0-litre diesel is (much) less impressive in terms of performance, but ticks the right boxes for running costs. A 104g/km version is an eye-opener. It's just a shame its stop-start is so comparatively coarse.

Depending on whether your heart really desires it or not, the Jag could look like excellent value. If you do want one, go for it and you won't regret it.

If you're a die-hard BMW, Mercedes or Audi follower, you'll need to get inside to see just how far the Jaguar brand has come.

Prices, on the face of it, are competitive with the best of the rest, and that 104g/km version will turn some heads among company car users.

Other than the aforementioned business types, families will get along famously with the XF. At almost five metres long, it's no nimble town car for nipping around with the kids in tow, but it could serve perfectly as the family's 'big car'. Jag expects a lot of buyers to switch from other brands, and it's not hard to see why once you're in and around it.

This car summed up in a single word: Classy

If this car was an: action hero, it would be a Roger Moore-era James Bond. It's smooth, sophisticated and high on class.

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Tivs fight back for the draw

Sheffield FC 3 Tividale 3

IN torrential rain that lasted the whole game, Tividale produced what was possibly the worst 45 minutes of football witnessed for a long time.

Yet the second half – although not exactly completely scintillating – was a complete turnaround and in the end Tividale should have claimed all three Evo-Stik One South points on offer as the home side were battered by the weather and the visitors.

Before the game there was a minute's silence in memory of those killed in the horrific events in Paris.

Tividale were a goal down on seven minutes when James Gregory rifled home from the edge of the box.

Sheffield at this point in the game were rampant and Gregory then had an effort that Turner could only parry and Igiehorn looked to tap in the rebound but he was flagged offside.

Unsurprisingly Sheffield went two nil up on 26 minutes when Tividale skipper Jason Chilton committed a foul some 25 yards out and Connor Glavin's free kick went over the wall and dipped under the cross bar giving Turner no chance.

Tivi pulled a goal back when a neat piece of inter passing between Jason Chilton and Chris Sterling fed in Malachi Farquharson, who beat Sheffield keeper Jamie Green.

Sheffield regained their two-goal advantage on 36 minutes, but the visitors responded in style after the break. Tividale's mounting pressure paid off on 68 minutes when a great cross from Chilton was headed home by Farquharson and, with two minutes to go, they got their leveller via a cross from Chilton and the head of Jordan Cullinane- Liburd.

As the game moved into stoppage time it was still Tividale who were pressing for the winnerTividale: 1. Tom Turner, 2. Jacob Barnes, 3. Jason Chilton 4. Scott Devlin, 5. Jordan Cullinane-Liburd, 6. Phil Male, 7. Chris Rabone (12. Shane Grainger 80), 8. Alex Fletcher, 9. Chris Sterling, 10 Malachi Farquharson, 11. Tom Turton (14. Craig Stevens 67). Unused subs: 15. Demetri Brown, 16. Ashley Jackson 17. Mark Danks.

Kenny tells team to suck up the pressure

WE have to embrace the pressure – that's the message from Wolves boss Kenny Jackett as they bid to get their flagging season back on track.

Wolves are have won just five matches all season and find themselves nine points off the play-offs with a third of the campaign gone. Only two of those victories have come at home.

But Jackett has dismissed any notion that Wolves aren't able to handle the expectations of the club's supporters.

"We have to accept there's a pressure to perform," the Wolves boss said."We're in professional football. We have an expectancy and a pressure and you have to embrace that, and want to be in that situation.

"It's not something we should be frightened of. You've got to see it as a challenge and realise that if things aren't going well you can turn it round with some good tackles, closing down, certainly a goal, shots, good crosses, good combination play – good football can turn that around very quickly and make a crowd positive."

Wolves face none of the Championship's top seven sides for the rest of the calendar year, and after travelling to play Mick McCarthy's Ipswich Town at Portman Road this Saturday, have a run of four successive fixture against teams below them in the table.

It offers an opportunity to put a run together, and Jackett wants his players and supporters to feed off each other.

"It's a very important link and one that we take responsibility for the lead," he said of the link between his team and the fans."

Plug is pulled on La Parra loan deal

WOLVES winger Rajiv van La Parra's loan move to Bolton is off after the Lancashire club pulled the plug on the deal.

The Dutchman was expected to move yesterday on a 28-day loan. But the Trotters have pulled out, with an imminent takeover at the Macron Stadium believed to be behind the last-minute snub.

It's not the first time this season that Van La Parra has been left high and dry. Just before the end of the summer transfer window he was thrown in limbo when, after Wolves decided he could leave permanently, a move to Leeds United fell through when the Yorkshire club decided against signing the 24-year-old.

At around the same time right-winger Nathan Byrne transferred to Molineux from Swindon Town, pushing Van La Parra further down the pecking order.

And the luckless winger is now left pondering his future again.

Direction

Wolves boss Kenny Jackett said: "It's fallen through at Bolton's end. "Bolton have either gone in another direction or pulled out. I'm not sure of the exact reasons but it seems to be financial.

"It's a shame. It's one of those we were certain would happen."

Jackett had a dilemma in deciding whether to let Van La Parra or fellow winger Jordan Graham leave on loan, with Oxford United interested in the latter.

And Jackett insisted these latest developments wouldn't mean Graham would be allowed to go, suggesting that the 20-year-old may finally be in line for a Wolves debut.

"Looking at the games last week against Derby and Liverpool, Jordan played very well in both games," Jackett said.

"I was pleased for him, he's in first team contention. He's a natural winger, two footed and can go both ways. He's played predominantly left side although hasn't a preference.

"I think he's a player who'll excite players, in terms of goals and creating chances and going past people. He has a lot of ability and getting up to speed in the Championship can be difficult "

Brummies sign teenager Jack

From left, Graham Drury, new signing Jack Smith and Tony Mole. *Pic Claire Swatman.*

TEENAGE hotshot Jack Smith has become the second member of Birmingham's 2016 septet.

The 16-year-old joins fellow youngster Jack Parkinson-Blackburn on a 3.00 average with the pair expected to begin next season as the Surestop Brummies' reserve duo.

Smith guested for the Perry Barr outfit in their final seven meetings of the 2015 campaign and became a popular individual amongst supporters.

The Stoke-on-Trent based rider made an instant impression on club bosses and team manager Graham Drury is delighted to have him on board for next season.

Drury said: "After showing some real encouraging signs and plenty of potential when he guested for us, Jack was always a priority for our team building for 2016. His gating was particularly impressive and he seemed to get better every time we saw him.

"The progress he made in those few weeks was very promising and I'm really excited to have him on board.

"He's in Australia where he's putting in plenty of practice and will be competing in at least ten meetings so he couldn't be any better prepared."

Yozza picks up his fifth darts ranking title in classic

TIPTON'S Jamie Hughes picked up his fifth BDO ranking title after going all of the way in the Jersey Classic at the weekend.

The Black Country thrower also reached the semi-finals of the Jersey Open during the three-day festival at the Royal Hotel St Helier, writes Craig Birch.

Hughes bowed out of the Open to a formidable Darryl Fitton, who was in imperious form as he claimed a 4-1 victory.

But there was no stopping 'Yozza' in the Classic, going up the gears from the last 32 when he put out Jersey's Edward Le Bailly 4-1.

Another impressive 4-1 victory over Martin Atkins put him into the quarter-finals, where he whitewashed former world champion Andy Fordham 4-0.

A close-run last four clash with Welshman Jim Williams saw him nudge through to the final 4-3, setting up the decider with Scott Waites, who he beat 5-4.

Hughes, who is ranked No 4 with the BDO, is preparing to return to the World Championship at Lakeside, having made his debut there at the start of the year.

He'll need to see off Scotland's Ross Montgomery to emulate his second round run and meet either Gary Robson or Madars Razma in the next phase.

Hughes was instrumental in England winning in Turkey recently where he was part of a quartet of darters who were going for broke.

It was Hughes' debut in the competition and he helped to win the team title and keep the overall crown.

Albion will be reviewing its security

ALBION have confirmed that they will review their security plans at The Hawthorns because of the Paris terror attacks.

A club spokesman said: "The club regularly liaise with local counter terrorism security advisors and have done for a good period of time before this.

"We have plans in place, but as always we will review these following the tragic events in Paris."

The Premier League will issue new security guidance to clubs this week following the attacks in Paris which saw a match at France's national stadium targeted.

League officials have been speaking to police, the Government and security advisers.

A Premier League statement said: "We are actively engaged with our security advisers."

Troy's dream of scoring goal at Villa

FORMER Walsall striker Troy Deeney has revealed that Villa Park is the stadium where he would most like to score this season.

The Watford striker, a Birmingham City fan, has scored twice in his last three matches and will hope the run continues for the trip to Villa on November 28.

"It is a wonderful stadium, probably the biggest fanbase in the Midlands and my grandad was a die-hard Villa fan, so it will be nice for that moment," said Deeney, who had a trial at Villa at 15.

"To do it in front of the Holte End, with 1,000 swearing at me will be lovely!"

Deeney, whose 21 goals last season helped Watford win promotion to the Premier League, joined Walsall in 2006 and played on loan at Halesowen Town.

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Tipton look more positive with a draw

Wellington 1 Tipton Town 1

TIPTON Town are still without a West Midlands League Premier Division victory this season, but a fine committed performance could be a sign of an imminent upturn in fortunes with Town well worth their point.

Wellington began very much on the front foot, despite a couple of useful Tipton raids forward,

Glen Segust's smart snapshot in only the second minute testing new Tipton keeper, Sebastien Mann.

Matt Williams' reverse shot clipped the Tipton crossbar with keeper, Mann powerless.

Gagandeep Kullar then denied the home club's surge down the left flank and featured prominently in attack for the visitors on 10 minutes. when he made space for Ravi Sangha whose reverse shot might just have given Tipton the lead.

Following a couple of quite useful Tipton raids it was the home side who stormed in front on 18 minutes.

A spell of sustained pressure finally breached the Tipton rearguard when a deep curling left wing cross was nonchalantly headed home by Josh Hunt.

Tipton reacted positively, but had to wait until just shy of the hour-mark and once the hosts' Glen Segust had been sent off, to equalise.

Joe Crawford completed a fine attack down the left flank by squaring the ball to Ravi Sangha to score.

Kullar was having a very positive influence for Tipton and his link-up play with Ravi Sangha created problems for Wellington.

On the stroke of half-time Kullar almost caught out the home club when he suddenly fired from distance, fully 30yards, the ball skidding narrowly wide.

Villa's defender Amavi is ruled out for rest of season

VILLA defender Jordan Amavi will miss the rest of the season with a cruciate knee ligament injury.

The 21-year-old suffered the injury during France Under-21s' win over Northern Ireland on Thursday.

A Villa statement read: "Aston Villa can confirm defender Jordan Amavi has been ruled out for the rest of the 2015-16 Premier League season with a ruptured anterior cruciate ligament in his right knee.

"Everyone at the club wishes Jordan a speedy recovery and we look forward to seeing him back on a football pitch as soon as possible."

The left-back was injured after making a challenge in the second half of the European Under-21 qualifier in Guingamp.

Losing Amavi is a significant blow to new Villa boss Remi Garde, who replaced Tim Sherwood earlier this month.

Amavi has made 12 appearances since joining from Nice in the summer and was recalled by Garde for his first game in charge as Villa drew 0-0 with Manchester City immediately prior to the international break.

Tributes to Brunt on reaching 300

Football

ALBION chairman Jeremy Peace and some of his fellow teammates have paid tribute to Chris Brunt for reaching 300 appearances at the club.

Brunt, who joined in August 2007 as a left winger, reached the milestone against Man United at Old Trafford.

The 30-year-old has been a great servant to the club, and was captain of the side before current skipper Darren Fletcher joined in January.

"Three hundred games and counting Chris, well done, fantastic achievement," said Peace. "Thanks for all you've done for us over your time with us since 2007. "Some great goals, my favourite was the one you scored against Southampton that got us back into the Premier League.

"Other great goals besides that, but that's a memorable one for me."

Brunt started life out at The Hawthorns on the left wing but has also played in central midfield.

Albion's current head coach, Tony Pulis, moved him to left-back alongside fellow Northern Irish defenders Jonny Evans and Gareth McAuley.

"I know you'll not give much away and deep down you'll be very proud," said McAuley.

"It's a great achievement but you've been here a decade so if you didn't reach that then there would be something wrong."

The trio qualified for Euro 2016 with Northern Ireland last month.

"Can't wait to see you in France for five weeks lad," added McAuley. "You can get the teas in and you're getting the room bill."

James Morrison has made more than 250 appearances for Albion and like Brunt, joined in August 2007.

"Alright big neck, just Mozza here wishing you all the best and congratulations on 300 appearances," said the Scot.

STRIKER SAIDO LOOKS SHARP

ALBION first team coach Ben Garner says Saido Berahino's training session this week was the best he's seen from the striker.

Garner joined the club just over a month ago and has been impressed by Berahino's work ethic.

The 22-year-old has been in to train every day of the international break; sometimes as the only player.

"He was in all of last week, he didn't have any days off so he trained every day, worked really hard and showed a good attitude," said Garner. "And Tuesday was the best I've seen him in a training session. He looked really sharp, he looked hungry."

Berahino missed a glorious opportunity to head the Baggies level at Old Trafford last time out and Albion boss Tony Pulis has questioned his fitness.

It appears he's working hard to rectify both those blemishes on his copybook. "Saido has got wonderful talent but it's up to him to be in the peak physical condition to make the most of that talent," said Garner.

Break

The young forward is not in the England squad for this particular break. But Garner reckons Jesse Lingard's call up proves Roy Hodgson picks players on form, which could play into the striker's hands come the summer.

"It keeps all the English players motivated because they know if I'm doing well I'm going to get an opportunity," said the coach. "If Saido can hit good form here and play well and score goals then I'm sure he'll be straight back in the frame for the England squad."

Meanwhile, Albion academy manager Mark Harrison reckons Adil Nabi is as good a finisher as Berahino.

Nabi is on loan at Delhi Dynamos in the Indian Super League but the 21-year-old came through the club's youth teams with last season's top scorer, Berahino. Harrison has backed Nabi, who has never played for the first team, to come back from India and force himself into contention.

"The interesting thing is that Saido and Adil have been together for years," he said. " As long as I can remember, they've played up front together. I would say that Adil is as technically as good as Saido and is as good a finisher as him."

Playing in front of large crowds in India will have helped Nabi develop as a player.

"Adil has just gone through the transition now of getting some experience working at first team level," said Harrison.

"When he misses a chance he's got 20,000 people holding him to account.

"That pressure side of it, Saido was fortunate that he had some loans."

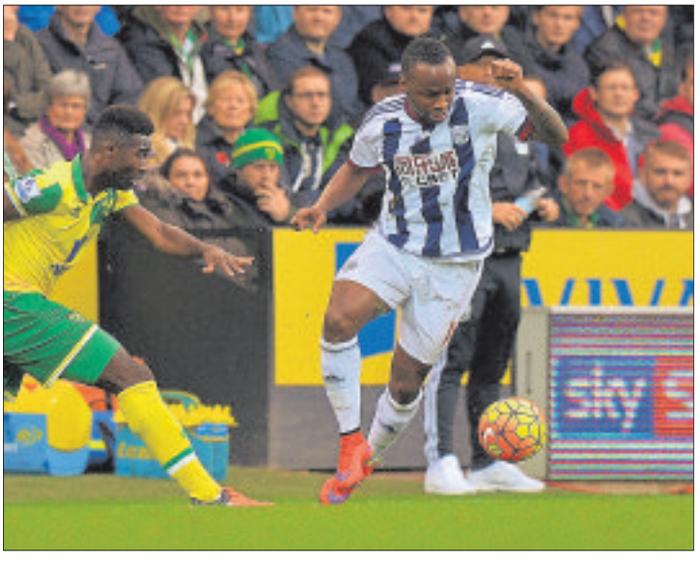
Nabi himself reckons he will come back from India in December both a better player and a different man.

"I'm so pleased I took this opportunity because I can honestly say it has been fantastic," said the striker.

"It was frustrating to begin with because I had some visa difficulties which delayed my arrival in India and interrupted my preparations with the team.

"But the game time is coming now and I feel I am doing well and making an impact."

Delhi are managed by Roberto Carlos and have marquee players such as Florent Malouda and John Arne Riise.



Saido Berahino is putting in the work and looking good according to his coach

McClean is keen to get to Euros

JAMES McClean can't wait for next summer to roll around after qualifying for the European Championships with the Republic of Ireland.

The winger became the latest Albion player to reach Euro 2016 on Monday night with Ireland's 2-0 second-leg win over Bosnia and Herzegovina in Dublin.

It sent Martin O'Neill's side through to the championships 3-1 on aggregate.

Just like the first leg, McClean came on as a second-half substitute.

"Bar my two wee ones being born, this is the greatest moment of my life," said the 26-year-old from Derry.

"I'm over the moon — I can't put into words how proud I am.

"I love this country and it's just unbelievable."

The midfielder was in the Ireland squad that went to Euro 2012 but only played a peripheral role.

Now four years older and a regular player in Tony Pulis' side, he is likely to feature more heavily this time around.

For him, being part of the journey getting there has been just as important.

"I was at the Euros four years ago, but I didn't feel part of the team because I had nothing to do with the campaign," he said.

"We've shown that throughout, our never say die attitude. There's a few times when it looked like we were down and out but we didn't believe that.

"We fought tooth and nail, kicked every ball going."

The combative midfielder has impressed Albion fans this season with his dogged determination up and down the left wing.

McClean has joined Welsh defender James Chester and Northern Irish trio — Jonny Evans, Gareth McAuley and Chris Brunt — as the latest Albion player to reach the Euros.

Relief after Lambert is safe from attacks

THERE were concerns for Albion forward Rickie Lambert when it emerged he was in Paris during the terrorist attacks.

Lambert had travelled to the French capital with his wife during the international break but Albion reassured fans the forward was safe.

Albion tweeted: "The club have spoken to Rickie Lambert. He and his wife are safe."

Meanwhile, the head of the organising committee for Euro 2016 has promised France will take the 'necessary decisions' to ensure next summer's tournament takes place in safety.

★★★

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